

volved in programs affecting housing adopt a comprehensive regulation, it should include provision for a citizens advisory committee. The committee should concentrate on the objective of eliminating and preventing community patterns of housing segregation, and its primary functions should be the same as described below for the workable program:

- (1) "To learn about the nature and extent of deficiencies and the means and methods of remedying them;
- (2) "To make recommendations for improvement; and
- (3) "To help inform other citizens and groups as to the need for the improvements and thus develop united community understanding of this need."¹⁵

IV. AN AFFIRMATIVE PROGRAM FOR HOUSING DESEGREGATION

Gunnar Myrdal suggested three principal factors that could explain the prevalence of residential segregation: Free choice, poverty, and discrimination. Karl Taeuber, through the application of his segregation index, demonstrated that neither free choice nor poverty is a sufficient explanation for the universally high degree of segregation in American cities. "Discrimination is the principal cause of Negro residential segregation, and there is no basis for anticipating major changes in the segregated character of American cities until patterns of housing discrimination can be altered."¹⁶

To meet the title VI requirement of Federal financial assistance that does not encourage, entrench, subsidize, or result in racial discrimination in housing, the following are suggested elements of an affirmative program for housing desegregation:

A. Fair housing law.—

- (1) Whenever federally assisted programs of land acquisition or construction cause persons to be dislocated from their homes; or
- (2) Whenever Federal assistance programs materially benefit private housing through the development of community facilities and services, one qualification for participation in such federally assisted programs shall be the enactment by the State and affected political subdivision of laws prohibiting racial discrimination in the sale or rental of private housing, with suitable administrative machinery for enforcement.

B. Comprehensive community plan.—

- (1) Any comprehensive plan for federally assisted urban development and renewal shall now include detailed information as to how the project will contribute toward eliminating and preventing community patterns of racial segregation in housing; and;
- (2) Such a comprehensive plan shall be required by every federally assisted program causing housing dislocations or providing financial aid to community facilities and services; and;
- (3) Where multiple jurisdictions are involved in such federally assisted programs, all concerned municipalities, political subdivisions and public agencies shall be required to achieve coordinated regional planning for the elimination of housing segregation.

C. Federal agency coordination.—

- (1) Where housing dislocation and assistance to private housing through community development involves the interplay of a number of different Federal programs, the responsible Federal agencies shall jointly issue a comprehensive regulation requiring the State or affected political subdivision to furnish an overall plan as to how the combination of projects under consideration will mutually contribute toward eliminating and preventing community patterns of racial segregation in housing; and
- (2) The various agencies involved shall designate a responsible authority to coordinate overall enforcement of such a comprehensive regulation; and;
- (3) Approval of any one program governed by the comprehensive regulation shall be withheld by the coordinating authority until all affected programs are in compliance.
- (4) The agencies most directly concerned are:
 - (a) The Department of Housing and Urban Development;
 - (b) The Bureau of Public Roads and the Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce;
 - (c) The Public Health Service and the U.S. Office of Education of the De-

¹⁵ Ibid., p. 2.

¹⁶ "Residential Segregation," Karl E. Taeuber, Scientific American, vol. 213, No. 2, pp. 12-19, August 1965.