Annotation Exercise

“Economic arguments can be invoked to explain why levels of black-white segregation changed so little during the 1970s. After decades of steady improvement, black economic progress stalled in 1973, bringing about a rise in black poverty and an increase in income inequality. As the black income distribution bifurcated, middle-class families experienced downward mobility and fewer households possessed the socioeconomic resources necessary to sustain residential mobility and, hence, integration. If the economic progress of the 1950s and 1960s had been sustained into the 1970s, segregation levels might have fallen more significantly. William Clark estimates that 30%-70% of racial segregation is attributable to economic factors, which, together with urban structure and neighborhood preferences, 'bear much of the explanatory weight for present residential patterns'” (178).

*From*:

Massey, Douglass S. and Nancy A. Denton. “The Continuing Causes of Segregation.” *The Blackwell City Reader*. Eds. Gary Bridge and Sophie Watson. Malden: Blackwell Publishing, 2010.