

## Segregation in suburbs growing

By 1990 Michigan's suburbs will be more segregated than Michigan's central cities, if present trends continue, says a Michigan State University researcher.

Using U.S. Census Tract statistics, Joe T. Darden, Ph.D., has been studying residential segregation of blacks in the state's central cities and suburbs.

An associate professor of geography and urban and metropolitan studies, Darden examined data for the metro-

politan areas of Ann Arbor, Bay City, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Muskegon and Saginaw.

He defines residential segregation as the "overall unevenness in the spatial distribution of blacks and whites" in the metropolitan area.

"The measure used is not influenced by the percentage of blacks in the total suburban population," Darden explains.

So even though an area has a low

percentage of blacks in its total population, a high degree of segregation can be reflected.

In the suburbs of Flint, Grand Rapids and Saginaw, Darden found that the black population more than doubled from 1960 to 1970. Suburban Flint experienced the greatest percentage of black migration and suburban Detroit the lowest.

This can be explained in part, Darden says, by the pattern of expansion

of central city ghettos into adjacent areas.

"As the ghetto expanded in Flint, it reached (in some areas) the municipal boundary of the central city," Darden says.

"Since no physical barriers to expansion existed, the black population of Flint continued to spread, crossing into the suburban area. In Detroit during the '60s black expansion failed to reach the suburban boundary, so little migration of blacks into the suburbs occurred."

Although there was substantial migration of blacks into the suburbs in several areas during the '60s, the suburban black population numbers remained proportionally small.

"Only in suburban Ann Arbor was the black proportion greater than four per cent. Most suburban areas had fewer than 5,000 blacks and only suburban Detroit, Ann Arbor and Flint exceeded this number," Darden states.

On the average, he adds, blacks in Michigan suburbs have a higher socioeconomic status level than those in central cities, but the two groups are equally segregated.

"There is reason to believe that the same mechanism—housing discrimination—which causes racial residential segregation in central cities is operating in the suburbs," the researcher maintains.

## Dogowners warned to test for heartworm

Heartworm, a disease which may not show symptoms until it does damage to a dog's internal organs is becoming an increasingly dangerous disease in southern Michigan, the Humane Education Service warns.

The American Heartworm Society recommends that dog owners discuss the disease with their veterinarians to determine whether a preventive program should be started for their pets.

Heartworm is a disease which is transmitted by a mosquito from an infected dog to another dog. The disease rarely occurs in cats or other animals.

The heartworms multiply and

seriously damage an animal's heart, lungs, liver and kidneys. Many times there are no outward signs of the disease.

The dog will eventually develop a chronic cough, will tire easily on exercise and may collapse from heart failure during or after exercise, according to the society.

A dog may become listless and weak, refuse food, and its urine may be a dark brown color. The animal may be jaundiced and anemic. An animal showing these symptoms may be dead within 24 hours.

Treatment can be costly and there is some risk involved. The disease

can be cured if detected early enough, but since the dog may show no symptoms at this stage, ARK recommends that owners consider the preventive program.

In this program the dog is given a simple blood test to determine if the dog is free from the disease. It is dangerous to put a dog on preventive medication if it is already infected.

The dog must be given preventive medication every day during the mosquito season. A pet owner could give the medication with the daily meal or a daily treat.

Spring is a good time to have your dog tested for heartworm and start the preventive program if your veterinarian recommends one.

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