

# Affordable Housing

## The Illinois Housing Planning Mandate: Impact of Compliance on Municipal Approaches Toward Affordable Housing Provision in Suburban Chicago



## Content

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- Research question
- Motivation
- Background
- Research Design

## Problem

- Some suburbs in the US are resistant to affordable housing programs:
  - maintain strong housing markets
  - strong tax base
- This leads to:
  - suburban residential inequality
  - a lack of affordable housing

## Problem

Therefore: a state mandate  
- Illinois Affordable Housing and Planning Act

- Requires local officials to prepare plans for their municipality

## Research question

Has the process of complying with the Illinois Housing Planning Mandate changed the way suburban cities in the Chicago Metropolitan Area are approaching affordable housing policy?

## Research question

### • Sub-questions:

- What are the main problems suburban cities in Chicago face with regard to developing affordable housing?
- What kinds of plans or policies were in place before the state mandate was introduced?
- Do city residents support the mandate?
- Do local governments and the state have conflicting goals concerning affordable housing? If yes, what kinds of goals are in conflict?
- What is the likelihood the mandate will help increase affordable housing availability?

## Motivation

- The situation in the US is very different from the situation in the Netherlands
- Try to find out how the mandate works
- Power relations between local and state government
- Affordable housing is a hot topic

## Background

- Shortage of affordable housing in the US
- Decentralized governance and declining federal leadership

## Research Design

- Literature research
  - Affordable housing
  - Governance in the US
  - Residential inequality
- Case study Chicago: Interviews
  - Urban Planners of Highland Park and Ford Heights
  - Affordable housing experts
  - State officials

## Main literature reviewed sofar

- Basolo, V. (1999), "The Impacts of Intercity Competition and Intergovernmental Factors on Local Affordable Housing Expenditures." *Housing Policy Debate* 10 (3), pp. 659-688
- Basolo, V. (1999), "Passing the Housing Policy Baton in the US: Will Cities Take the Lead?", *Housing Studies* 14 (4), pp. 433-453.
- Hoch, C. (2007), "How Plan Mandates Work: Affordable Housing In Illinois." *Journal Of The American Planning Association* 73 (1), pp. 86-99.
- Hoch, C. (2007), *Suburban Response Illinois Affordable Housing and Planning Act*. College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs University of Illinois at Chicago.
- Feldman, R. (2002), *The Affordable Housing Shortage: Considering the Problem, Causes and Solutions*. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.
- The Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement and UIC (2001), *Highland Park Affordable Housing Plan*.

End



Questions?