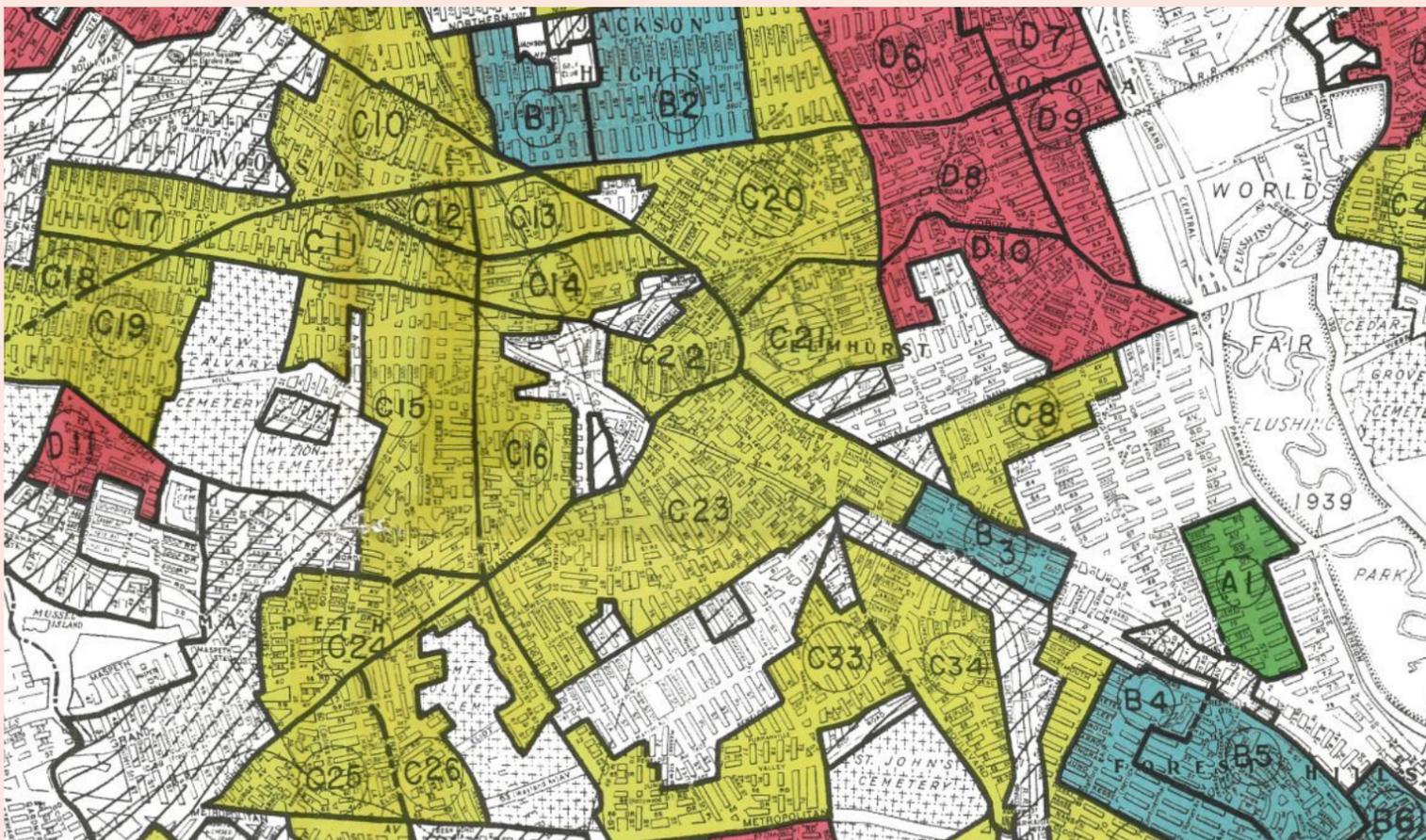


Deviating from the Script

**An exploration
of caste systems
across different
cultures**

An Infographic by
Alex Akers

Caste: A class system that is instilled from birth that determines a citizen's place in society. This includes determining the kinds of occupations this person can take up, the spouses they can marry, the establishments they are allowed into, the education they receive, their housing location, etc.



- This is an example of redlining, a practice in real estate that defines and zones off particular places where minorities can buy housing. Typically the locations where minorities were designated were very undesirable and the surrounding housing prices reflected this.

US & THEM



In the previous page I've illustrated the differences between the lives of people of color and white people in America

The Indian Caste System

It is composed of 5 tiers of hierarchy:

- **Brahmins:**
These are priests and are considered to be the highest of the caste system
- **Kshatriya:** These are the warriors and positioned right below priests, they are still considered highly valuable for the nation
- **Viasya:** Originally described as commoners, the visaya are skilled tradesmen and laborers
- **Dalits:** The lowest class, also called untouchables. These are the peasants and beggars

Caste in America

In America, your "status" in society is based on your skin color, it's not as blatantly enforced in modern times, however, the groundwork has been laid to continue the oppression for darker-skinned citizens.

The invisible scaffolding that is the remnants of segregation and other oppressive endeavors is what allows incidents like Trayvon Martin, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others to happen.

According to Isabel Wilkerson, the definition of racism is: Any action that seeks to harm, attaches inferiority or stereotype, or mocks. She defines casteism as: any action that limits, or puts someone in a defined ranking by denigrating that person to the lowest status is considered casteism.

How We Can Do Our Part

- It's our job as informed citizens to use this knowledge to create a more welcoming world and attempt to undo the actions of caste. It will take time, this will be a generational change, but the more educated people are on this topic, the further we can get on crafting a more inclusive and progressive society. One that can look past skin color or any other differences and unite towards a common goal.