

Jan. '64

TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 General Services Department  
 Tacoma 5, Wash.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TACOMA  
 KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY IN THE FIELD OF RACE RELATIONS-----

1. WHAT IS THE POPULATION OF RACIAL MINORITIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?  
 (Figures are from 1960 U.S. Census)

	Pierce County	Tacoma (35 tract)	Puyallup (Tract 34)	Univ. Place (23)	Lakewood (18-19-20-21)
Total	321,590	147,979	12,063	3,844	32,926
Non-White	16,389	7,873	66	86	1,996
Per Cent	5%	5.3%	.005%	.022%	4%

There are 35 Census Tracts in the City of Tacoma. 6 Tracts contain 73% of total non-white population.

TRACT NUMBER	Non-White	Total Population	Percentage
13	653	5,443	12%
14	913	4,196	21.76%
16	598	3,124	19.14%
17	2,148	5,191	41.38%
21	523	3,211	16.29%
22	957	3,783	25.30%

5,792 (Or 73% of total Non-White in Tacoma)

Thirteen Tracts contain 5.3% of total non-whites ( less than 1% of total population in each tract. )

TRACT NUMBER	Non-White	Total Population	Percentage
3	15	2,166	.69%
4	32	4,961	.65%
5	6	5,026	.12%
6	62	6,257	.99%
7	35	7,151	.49%
8	7	6,799	.10%
9	34	5,936	.57%
10	24	3,339	.72%
15	40	5,013	.80%
24	7	5,972	.12%
29	79	5,604	.87%
32	46	5,120	.90%
34	33	4,533	.73%

420 (or 5.2% of total non-whites)

2. WHAT IS THE RATIO OF NON-WHITES EMPLOYED IN DIVERSE LABOR CATEGORIES IN PIERCE COUNTY? (1960 Census)

LIST OF CATEGORIES	PIERCE COUNTY TOTALS			NON-WHITES TOTALS			
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%-NON WHITE
Prof., Techn'l. & Kindred Workers	6,674	4,776	11,450	140	90	230	2.01%
Mngrs., Off's. & Propr's., inc. Farm	8,223	1,427	9,650	107	33	140	1.45%
Clerical & Kindred Workers	4,191	10,527	14,718	37	120	157	1.07%
Sales Workers	5,034	2,937	7,971	13	43	56	.70%
Craftsmen, Foremen & Kindred Workers	15,043	342	15,385	173	8	181	1.18%
Operatives & Kindred Workers	12,337	2,830	15,167	219	117	336	2.15%
Private Household Workers	65	2,119	2,184	7	212	219	10. %
Service Wkrs. Except Private Household	4,564	5,528	10,092	213	253	466	4.62%
Laborers, Except Mines	6,320	585	6,905	340	72	412	5.97%
Occupation not Reported	1,702	1,149	2,851	97	58	155	5.44%
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	64,153	32,220	96,373	1,346	1,006	2,352	2.44%
UNEMPLOYED	4,260	2,595	6,855	230			

\* (Non-whites are: Negroes, American Indians, Filipinos, Japanese, Chinese, Malaysians, Asian Indians according to Census listing)

3. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE LAWS THAT ENFORCE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY?

L O C A L

An Open Housing Ordinance was proposed by the Community Development Advisory Committee from their sub-committee on Housing & Social Welfare. Tacoma's City Council passed this Ordinance on September 24, 1963. A referendum, sponsored by the Tacoma Real Estate Board was successful and the Council voted to place the Open Housing Ordinance on the February 11, 1964 Ballot for a vote of the people.

EMPLOYMENT It is unlawful for any employer (of 8 or more persons) for reasons of age, race, creed, color, or national origin:

1. to deny membership and full membership rights and privileges to any person
2. to discriminate against any member, employer or employee.
3. to expel from membership any person

It is unlawful for any employment agency:

1. to refuse to register or refer for employment any person because of age, race, creed, color or national origin.
2. to ask questions which directly or indirectly disclose race, creed, color or national origin.

(Note: the term "age" means individuals between the ages of 40 & 65.)

It is unlawful for any employer, employment agency or labor union to discharge, expel or otherwise discriminate against any person because he has filed a complaint or opposed any practice forbidden by this law.

PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS It is unlawful for any person, agent or employee to deny or withhold from any person because of race,.... any services, accommodations, facilities, or commodities offered or sold to the public. A few of these are hotels, eating places, bowling alleys, barber shops, nursery schools, public cemeteries, and offices for health services.

HOUSING In 1961 the Supreme Court of the State of Washington declared that the section of the State Law Against Discrimination which prohibited discrimination in the sale of publicly assisted housing was unconstitutional. Accordingly the law against discrimination now covers two areas: employment and public accommodations.

Not included under Public Accommodations or Housing are private institutions, private clubs, religious, sectarian or fraternal organizations unless such organizations permit public use of their facilities.

APPLICATION FOR CREDIT It is unlawful for any bank, insurance company, loan company or financial institution to require designation of race... on credit applications.

PROCEDURE:

The State Board on Discrimination employs several claim investigators. Upon receipt of a complaint the following procedure is carried out:

1. An investigator or field representative, is detailed to investigate the validity of the complaint and try to negotiate settlement. If this is not successful,, then:
2. A public hearing is held before a Tribunal (3 citizens appointed by the Board.) Both the respondent and the State are represented by attorneys. If the Tribunal fails to find an unlawful practice of discrimination the case is ordered dismissed. If the Tribunal finds that discrimination has been committed an order is issued by the Tribunal.
3. The Tribunal Orders may be appealed by either party to the Superior Court.

The Ordinance, Number 17440, prohibits discrimination in housing in the City of Tacoma because of race, creed, color or national origin; establishes an Open Housing Review Board and Staff; prescribes the powers and duties thereof; provides penalties and declares exemptions.

"Discriminate" includes any difference in treatment in the sale, lease or rental of housing units or housing accommodations because of race, color or national origin.

The Review Board shall consist of 5 members appointed by the Council. An Executive Secretary shall be employed, responsible to the Board, to investigate all complaints filed.

#### PROCEDURES:

1. Complaints must be in writing; sworn to under oath and must set forth facts sufficient to establish prima facie that complainant was; (a) a willing purchaser, (b) a registered voter, (c) must be filed within 10 days of act of discrimination.
2. Upon receipt of the complaint, the Executive Secretary must immediately investigate and make a written report to the Board.
3. The Board then decides if there is reasonable cause to support the complaint, and, if so, attempts to settle the matter by conciliation.
4. If this is unsuccessful, the Board shall issue an order to cease and desist.
5. If within 10 days such orders are not fully complied with, the Board shall file a record with the City Attorney.
6. The City Attorney investigates the matter to see if he has a case which can go to Court. (Municipal Court)
7. If the judge finds the defendant guilty, there is a maximum fine of \$250., (paid into the City's General fund) or in default of payment, 30 days in jail.

#### EXEMPTIONS:

1. The Ordinance does not apply to the occupant of a housing unit in which he or his family reside, if the room or rooms rented do not constitute a separate independent housing unit.
2. The Ordinance also does not apply to a subversive person.

#### S T A T E

The legislature of the State of Washington declared in 1949 that the right to be free from discrimination in employment because of age, race, creed, color or national origin is recognized to be a civil right, and that practices of discrimination against any person in the state for these reasons are a matter of state concern. In the 1957 legislature the scope of the law was increased to three general areas: employment, public accommodations, and publicly assisted housing. In 1961 the law was further amended to prohibit discrimination in employment because of age.

Since passage of this law in 1949, there have been over 900 complaints filed. Only eleven cases have resulted in a public hearing before a tribunal. Several of these hearings have resulted from complaints alleging discrimination in employment. A Spokane barber who was ordered by a tribunal after a public hearing to cease and desist from discrimination has appealed the order to the Spokane County Superior Court.

In the Jones-O'Meara case, which resulted in the housing section of the law being declared unconstitutional, the Supreme Court of the State of Washington held that the law was discriminatory in that it prohibited discrimination in the sale of a home which was insured by a federal agency while it did not prohibit discrimination in the sale of a home which was not so covered.

Since the Supreme Court has invalidated the only housing law covering discrimination in the State of Washington, local ordinances are being sought to prohibit discrimination in the sale or rental of homes.

#### 4. IS THERE A COUNCIL OF HUMAN RELATIONS IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

NO.

The Mayor's Community Development Advisory Committee was formed to advise the Council on problems affecting the development of an attractive community. The specific concern of the Subcommittee on Housing and Social Welfare is the upgrading of housing and housing environment for all citizens as part of the pursuit of developing a quality city. Its scope is limited primarily to the physical aspects of housing, but it may call attention to related social and welfare problems.

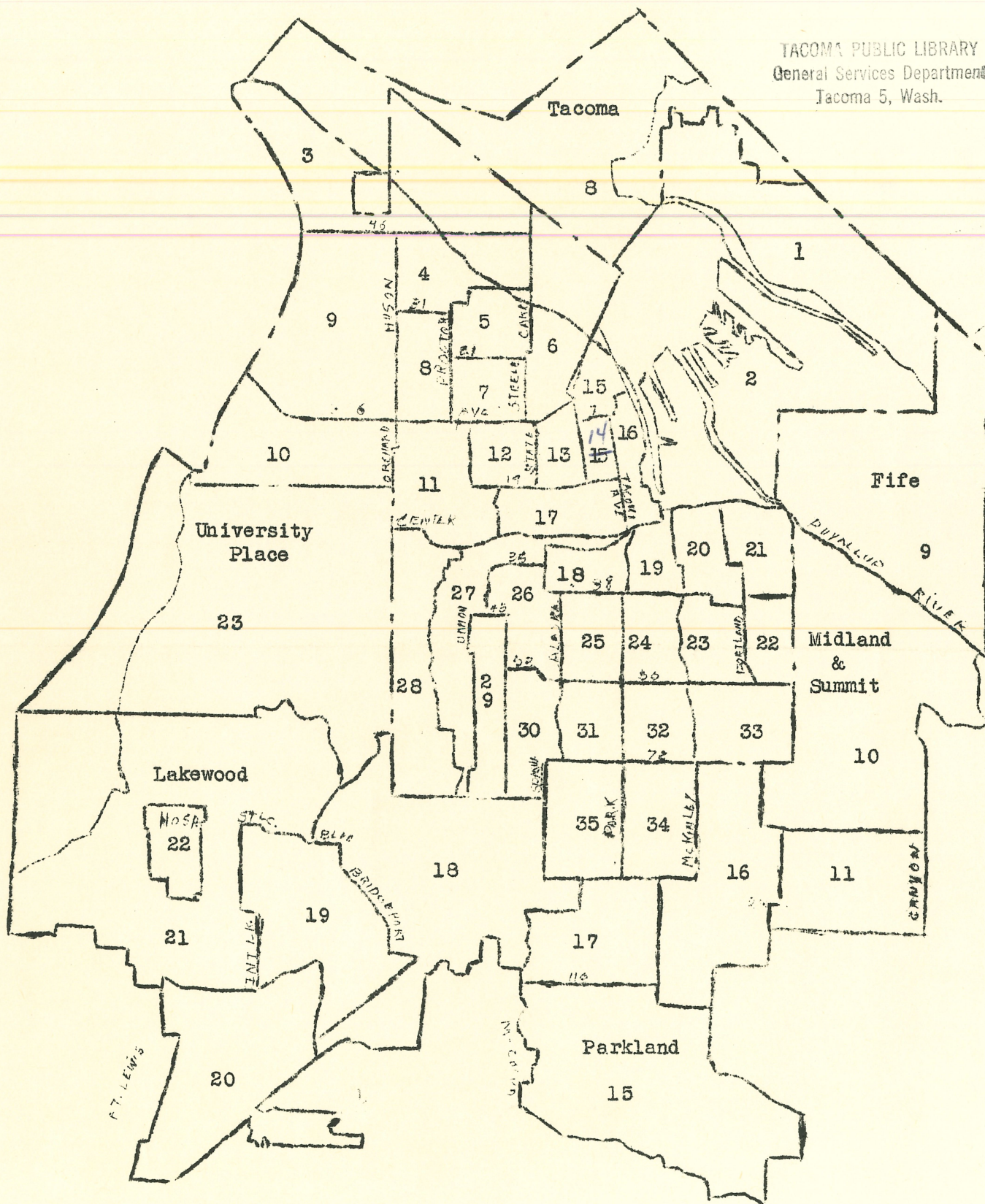
A resolution to establish a Human Rights Commission was sent to the Mayor and Council in July, 1963 by the parent committee at the request of the Subcommittee. The recommendation was made at the same time that an OPEN HOUSING ORDINANCE be suggested to the Council through the same channels. This was done.

As recommended, the purpose of the Human Rights Commission would be to advise the City Council on possible action, legislative or otherwise, it might take to alleviate injustices and other undesirable effects that accrue from various acts of discrimination, and to promote better inter-group understanding by cooperation with interested groups, by educative processes, and by whatever methods deemed desirable to eliminate discrimination due to race, creed or color.

Source material: Questions #1 and 2 - U.S. Census  
Question 3- Ordinance 17440, City of Tacoma  
- "Digest of Wash. State Law Against Discrimination."  
- Office of State Board Against Discrimination.  
Question 4- Based on minutes, reports, resolutions of the Subcommittee on Housing & Social Welfare and a letter of Oct. 31, 1963 from Mayor Tollefson to Jack Warrnick, subcommittee chairman reaffirming intention of Council in forming committee.

Interviews and calls to Tacoma Planning Commission, County Planning Commission, Urban Renewal Office, Wash. State Employment Div. Sociology Dept. at U.P.S. & P.L.U. and other citizens known to have an interest in this area.

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CENSUS TRACTS- Tacoma and Adjacent Area