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## **Appendix 2: Excerpt for discussion from Kevin Kruse's *Traffic***

“During the New Deal, federal agencies like the Home Owners’ Loan Corporation and the Federal Housing Administration encouraged redlining practices that explicitly marked minority neighborhoods as risky investments and therefore discouraged bank loans, mortgages and insurance there. Other policies simply targeted black communities for isolation and demolition.....

While Interstates were regularly used to destroy black neighborhoods, they were also used to keep black and white neighborhoods apart. Today, major roads and highways serve as stark dividing lines between black and white sections in cities like Buffalo, Hartford, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh and St. Louis.....

One white property manager in her late 50s told a reporter that she voted against mass transit because it was used by poorer residents and immigrants, whom she called “illegals.” “Why should we pay for it?” she asked. “Why subsidize people who can’t manage their money and save up a dime to buy a car?” “

Discuss the following questions with a classmate. When we report back as a class, tell us what you learned from your classmate.

- 1) Segregation: Kevin Kruse describes how highways built in the 1950s and public transportation (or lack of it) drew borders of social segregation that remain with us today. What are the boundaries you perceive in your daily life? Consider things such as: streets you are told are dangerous, places you would like to go but are not accessible without a car or are inaccessible for some other reason, subway routes you prefer to others and why, etc.
- 2) How does public transportation shape our experience of race, class, and belonging in NYC?
- 3) Neighborhoods and enclaves: How connected do you feel to the neighborhood you live in? For example, do you know your neighbors? Do the store owners know you? Do you know what your neighborhood looked like and who lived there 20 years ago? Is your neighborhood a place you imagine staying in, or on the contrary, moving from as soon as you can? How do you envision remaining connected to the neighborhood you consider your home?