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## The End Of Middle Class Neighborhoods?

The middle class is shrinking. So are middle class neighborhoods. We'll look at the archetypal American neighborhood, in retreat.



*Suburban areas are changing as the economy continues to struggle. (marueen\_sill/Flickr)*

All the talk about income inequality these days can sound esoteric. The stuff of number crunchers and statistics. It's not. A big new report shows how income inequality is changing the very face of American life. Changing neighborhoods and neighbors. Who we see and who we don't.

Above all, it's changing the middle class neighborhood. Changing, as in taking it away. The archetypal American neighborhood, with baseball gloves and tricycles and families doing just okay... slipping away.

This hour, *On Point*: the middle class neighborhood, seedbed of the American dream, in steep retreat.

**-Tom Ashbrook**

**Guests**

**Sean Reardon**, Director, Stanford Interdisciplinary Doctoral Training Program in Quantitative Education Policy Analysis. Co-author of a recent study, Growth in Residential Segregation of Families by Income, 1970-2009.

**Ira Goldstein**, director of policy solutions at the Reinvestment Fund, a nonprofit community development organization.

**William Julius Wilson**, the Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor at Harvard University.