

# poverty and race research action council

**poverty and race research action council** represents a pivotal organization dedicated to addressing the intersections of poverty, race, and social justice through rigorous research and informed advocacy. This council conducts comprehensive studies to illuminate the systemic barriers faced by marginalized communities, particularly focusing on how racial disparities exacerbate poverty. By combining empirical data with policy analysis, the poverty and race research action council fosters informed dialogue and develops actionable strategies to promote equity in housing, education, employment, and healthcare. Understanding the historical and structural context surrounding poverty and race is essential to crafting effective interventions, a principle central to the council's mission. This article explores the origins, research focus, key findings, and impact of the poverty and race research action council, providing a detailed overview of its role in shaping social policy and advancing racial and economic justice.

- History and Mission of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council
- Research Focus Areas
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- Policy Advocacy and Social Impact
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## History and Mission of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council

The poverty and race research action council was established in response to the growing recognition of racial inequalities in economic status and social opportunities. Founded in the late 20th century, the council emerged as a collaborative effort among scholars, policymakers, and activists committed to dismantling structural racism and poverty in the United States. Its mission centers on producing high-quality, interdisciplinary research to inform public policy and promote racial and economic equity. The council's work emphasizes the importance of data-driven solutions and community engagement to address the root causes of poverty, especially as they relate to race and ethnicity. Over the years, the organization has expanded its reach, influencing national debates and legislative initiatives aimed at reducing disparities.

## **Research Focus Areas**

The poverty and race research action council concentrates on several critical areas where poverty and race intersect. These areas include housing discrimination, educational inequities, employment barriers, and access to healthcare. Each focus area is examined through both quantitative and qualitative methods to provide a comprehensive understanding of disparities and potential policy remedies.

### **Housing and Residential Segregation**

The council investigates patterns of residential segregation and housing discrimination that disproportionately affect people of color. Research highlights how policies such as redlining and zoning laws have historically limited access to affordable, quality housing for minority communities, perpetuating cycles of poverty.

### **Education and Opportunity Gaps**

Educational disparities form a central focus, with studies analyzing how racial inequalities in school funding, resources, and disciplinary practices contribute to achievement gaps. The council's research supports reforms that aim to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all students, regardless of race or socioeconomic background.

### **Employment and Economic Mobility**

Employment research addresses wage disparities, job discrimination, and barriers to career advancement faced by racial minorities. The council explores how systemic factors restrict economic mobility and investigates policies that can foster inclusive labor markets and economic empowerment.

### **Healthcare Access and Outcomes**

Healthcare disparities, including unequal access to medical services and differential health outcomes among racial groups, are another vital research area. The council's work informs efforts to eliminate health inequities through policy change and improved service delivery.

## **Key Research Findings on Poverty and Race**

The poverty and race research action council has produced significant findings that have deepened understanding of how poverty and race are intertwined. Among the key conclusions are that racial discrimination is a persistent factor in economic disparities, and that poverty cannot be effectively addressed

without confronting racial inequities.

The council's research identifies the following critical insights:

- Racial residential segregation remains a major driver of concentrated poverty and limits access to quality education and employment opportunities.
- Disparities in school funding and resources disproportionately affect students of color, leading to persistent achievement gaps.
- Systemic discrimination in hiring and wages contributes to higher unemployment rates and lower incomes among racial minorities.
- Health disparities linked to race result in poorer health outcomes and lower life expectancy for marginalized populations.

## **Policy Advocacy and Social Impact**

Building on its research, the poverty and race research action council actively engages in policy advocacy to promote racial and economic justice. The council collaborates with government agencies, community organizations, and policymakers to translate research findings into effective policy initiatives.

### **Housing Policy Initiatives**

The council advocates for fair housing laws, inclusive zoning reforms, and programs that promote affordable housing development in racially diverse neighborhoods. These efforts aim to reduce segregation and improve living conditions for low-income families.

### **Educational Reform Efforts**

Advocacy includes pushing for equitable school funding formulas, culturally responsive curricula, and disciplinary policies that reduce racial disparities in school suspensions and expulsions.

### **Economic Empowerment Programs**

The council supports workforce development programs, anti-discrimination enforcement, and initiatives encouraging minority entrepreneurship to enhance economic opportunities for disadvantaged racial groups.

## **Healthcare Equity Campaigns**

Efforts focus on expanding access to quality healthcare, addressing social determinants of health, and promoting policies that eliminate racial health disparities.

## **Challenges and Future Directions**

Despite progress, the poverty and race research action council faces ongoing challenges in addressing deeply entrenched racial and economic inequalities. These include political resistance to policy reforms, limited funding for comprehensive research, and the complexity of intersecting social issues.

Looking ahead, the council aims to leverage emerging data technologies, strengthen community partnerships, and expand its interdisciplinary approach to better address evolving challenges. Priorities include tackling the impacts of systemic racism in new economic sectors, addressing climate justice as it relates to poverty and race, and influencing federal policy frameworks.

Through continuous research and advocacy, the poverty and race research action council remains a vital force in the pursuit of equity and justice for all communities affected by poverty and racial discrimination.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the Poverty and Race Research Action Council (PRRAC)?**

The Poverty and Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing poverty and racial inequality through research, public policy, and advocacy.

### **When was the Poverty and Race Research Action Council founded?**

PRRAC was founded in 1989 to promote research and policies that combat racial and economic disparities.

### **What are the main goals of PRRAC?**

PRRAC aims to reduce poverty and racial discrimination by supporting research, informing public policy, and advocating for equitable solutions.

### **How does PRRAC contribute to policy development?**

PRRAC connects researchers, policymakers, and advocates to translate academic research into actionable policies addressing poverty and racial inequality.

## **What topics does PRRAC focus its research on?**

PRRAC focuses on issues such as housing discrimination, education inequality, criminal justice reform, economic opportunity, and civil rights enforcement.

## **Who can benefit from PRRAC's work?**

Policy makers, researchers, advocates, and communities affected by poverty and racial discrimination benefit from PRRAC's research and policy guidance.

## **Does PRRAC collaborate with other organizations?**

Yes, PRRAC partners with universities, advocacy groups, government agencies, and community organizations to amplify its impact.

## **How can individuals get involved with PRRAC?**

Individuals can engage by attending PRRAC events, subscribing to their publications, supporting their initiatives, or volunteering with affiliated projects.

## **What are some notable achievements of PRRAC?**

PRRAC has influenced fair housing policies, promoted educational equity, and contributed to reforms in criminal justice and civil rights enforcement.

## **Where can I find resources and publications from PRRAC?**

Resources and publications from PRRAC are available on their official website, which offers reports, policy briefs, and research summaries.

## **Additional Resources**

### *1. Race, Poverty, and Social Justice: Foundations for Action*

This book explores the intertwined relationship between race and poverty in contemporary society. It examines systemic inequalities and their impact on marginalized communities. The authors propose actionable strategies for policymakers and activists to promote social justice and economic equity.

### *2. Bridging the Divide: Race, Poverty, and Community Empowerment*

Focusing on grassroots movements, this book highlights successful case studies where communities have addressed racial disparities linked to poverty. It offers insights into coalition-building and effective advocacy. Readers gain an understanding of how local action can influence broader social change.

### 3. *Beyond the Numbers: Understanding Race and Poverty through Research*

This comprehensive volume delves into quantitative and qualitative research methods used to study poverty and race. It emphasizes the importance of data-driven approaches in shaping policy and public awareness. The book also critiques common research pitfalls and suggests ethical frameworks for scholars.

### 4. *Race, Poverty, and Policy: Pathways to Equity*

Examining historical and contemporary policies, this book analyzes how legislation has perpetuated or alleviated racial poverty. It discusses welfare reform, housing, education, and employment initiatives. The authors advocate for policy reforms grounded in equity and inclusion.

### 5. *Voices from the Margins: Race, Poverty, and Lived Experience*

Through interviews and personal narratives, this book brings to light the experiences of individuals living at the intersection of race and poverty. It emphasizes the importance of storytelling in understanding systemic issues. The collection aims to humanize statistics and inspire empathy and action.

### 6. *The Role of Race in Poverty Research and Action Councils*

This text provides an in-depth look at the organizational structures and strategies of councils dedicated to addressing racial poverty. It discusses challenges such as funding, political resistance, and community engagement. The book serves as a guide for building effective research-action partnerships.

### 7. *Intersectionality and Inequality: Race, Poverty, and Social Change*

This book applies the framework of intersectionality to analyze how race and poverty intersect with gender, class, and other identities. It explores how overlapping oppressions affect access to resources and opportunities. The authors propose multidimensional approaches to social change efforts.

### 8. *Mobilizing for Justice: Race, Poverty, and Activism in America*

Tracing historical and contemporary movements, this book examines how activists have fought racial poverty in the United States. It covers civil rights, economic justice campaigns, and emerging social movements. The narrative highlights strategies that have led to tangible improvements in marginalized communities.

### 9. *Data, Race, and Poverty: Tools for Advocacy and Change*

This book focuses on the use of data analytics and research in advocating for racial and economic justice. It demonstrates how data can reveal hidden disparities and inform targeted interventions. Practical advice is offered for activists and organizations seeking to harness data effectively.

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**poverty and race research action council: Encyclopedia of World Poverty** Mehmet Odekon, 2006-05-16 Poverty is more than just lack of income, it is deprivation from basic capabilities, rights, and freedoms that provide individuals the necessary choices and opportunities they need to lead a life they value. The Encyclopedia of World Poverty provides extensive and current information, as well as insight into the contemporary debate on poverty. The three volumes of this state-of-the-art Encyclopedia contain over 800 original articles written by more than 125 renowned scholars. The entries contributing to this work explore poverty in various regions of the world, and examine the difficulties associated with the definition and measurement of poverty, along with its causes and effects. Key Features Examines the geographic, political, social, cultural, and other economic characteristics of 191 countries and provides current vital statistics on poverty such as the mortality, disease, literacy, and illiteracy rate for each country Addresses the various definitions and measurement techniques of poverty and includes each country's ranking according to the Human Development Index and the Human Poverty Index, whenever available Looks at potential causes of poverty, ranging from discrimination to climate factors such as drought and famine, as well as the potential effects of poverty including vulnerability, insecurity, powerlessness, social exclusion and disqualification, and stigmatization Acknowledges the importance of various associations combating poverty such as Civil Society Organizations, Secular Charities, Religious Charities, and Non-Governmental Organizations The Encyclopedia of World Poverty is an authoritative and rigorous source on poverty and related issues, making it a must-have reference for all academic libraries.

**poverty and race research action council: Segregation** James H. Carr, Nandinee K. Kutty, 2008 Segregation: The Rising Costs for America documents how discriminatory practices in the housing markets through most of the past century, and that continue today, have produced extreme levels of residential segregation that result in significant disparities in access to good jobs, quality education, homeownership attainment and asset accumulation between minority and non-minority households. The book also demonstrates how problems facing minority communities are increasingly important to the nation's long-term economic vitality and global competitiveness as a whole. Solutions to the challenges facing the nation in creating a more equitable society are not beyond our ability to design or implement, and it is in the interest of all Americans to support programs aimed at creating a more just society. The book is uniquely valuable to students in the social sciences and public policy, as well as to policy makers, and city planners.

**poverty and race research action council: Race, Space, and Exclusion** Robert Adelman, Christopher Mele, 2014-11-20 This collection of original essays takes a new look at race in urban spaces by highlighting the intersection of the physical separation of minority groups and the social processes of their marginalization. Race, Space, and Exclusion provides a dynamic and productive dialogue among scholars of racial exclusion and segregation from different perspectives, theoretical and methodological angles, and social science disciplines. This text is ideal for upper-level undergraduate or lower-level graduate courses on housing policy, urban studies, inequalities, and planning courses.

**poverty and race research action council: Identity and Power in Narratives of Displacement** Katrina M. Powell, 2015-02-11 In this book, Powell examines the ways that identities are constructed in displacement narratives based on cases of eminent domain, natural disaster, and civil unrest, attending specifically to the rhetorical strategies employed as barriers and boundaries intersect with individual lives. She provides a unique method to understand how the displaced move within accepted and subversive discourses, and how representation is a crucial component of that movement. In addition, Powell shows how notions of human rights and the public good are often at odds with individual well-being and result in intriguing intersections between discourses of power and discourses of identity. Given the ever-increasing numbers of displaced persons across the globe, and the layers of displacement experienced by many, this study sheds light on the resources of rhetoric as means of survival and resistance during the globally common experience of

displacement.

**poverty and race research action council:** *The State of Our Nation's Housing* United States. Congress. House. Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs. Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development, 1993

**poverty and race research action council:** **Race** Peter Wade, 2015-07-02 Taking a comparative approach, this textbook is a concise introduction to race. Illustrated with detailed examples from around the world, it is organised into two parts. Part I explores the historical changes in ideas about race from the ancient world to the present day, in different corners of the globe. Part II outlines ways in which racial difference and inequality are perceived and enacted in selected regions of the world. Examining how humans have used ideas of physical appearance, heredity and behaviour as criteria for categorising others, the text guides students through provocative questions such as: what is race? Does studying race reinforce racism? Does a colour-blind approach dismantle, or merely mask, racism? How does biology feed into concepts of race? Numerous case studies, photos, figures and tables help students to appreciate the different meanings of race in varied contexts, and end-of-chapter research tasks provide further support for student learning.

**poverty and race research action council:** *Choosing Homes, Choosing Schools* Annette Lareau, Kimberly Goyette, 2014-03-31 A series of policy shifts over the past decade promises to change how Americans decide where to send their children to school. In theory, the boom in standardized test scores and charter schools will allow parents to evaluate their assigned neighborhood school, or move in search of a better option. But what kind of data do parents actually use while choosing schools? Are there differences among suburban and urban families? How do parents' choices influence school and residential segregation in America? *Choosing Homes, Choosing Schools* presents a breakthrough analysis of the new era of school choice, and what it portends for American neighborhoods. The distinguished contributors to *Choosing Homes, Choosing Schools* investigate the complex relationship between education, neighborhood social networks, and larger patterns of inequality. Paul Jargowsky reviews recent trends in segregation by race and class. His analysis shows that segregation between blacks and whites has declined since 1970, but remains extremely high. Moreover, white families with children are less likely than childless whites to live in neighborhoods with more minority residents. In her chapter, Annette Lareau draws on interviews with parents in three suburban neighborhoods to analyze school-choice decisions. Surprisingly, she finds that middle- and upper-class parents do not rely on active research, such as school tours or test scores. Instead, most simply trust advice from friends and other people in their network. Their decision-making process was largely informal and passive. Eliot Weinginer complements this research when he draws from his data on urban parents. He finds that these families worry endlessly about the selection of a school, and that parents of all backgrounds actively consider alternatives, including charter schools. Middle- and upper-class parents relied more on federally mandated report cards, district websites, and online forums, while working-class parents use network contacts to gain information on school quality. Little previous research has explored what role school concerns play in the preferences of white and minority parents for particular neighborhoods. Featuring innovative work from more than a dozen scholars, *Choosing Homes, Choosing Schools* adroitly addresses this gap and provides a firmer understanding of how Americans choose where to live and send their children to school.

**poverty and race research action council:** *Cityscape* , 1999

**poverty and race research action council:** *Best Practices in Poverty Reduction* Else Øyen, Alberto D. Cimaadamore, 2002-08 This book is a contribution to the central question of how to develop effective anti-poverty strategies worldwide.

**poverty and race research action council:** *There is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster* Gregory Squires, Chester Hartman, 2013-01-11 *There is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster* is the first comprehensive critical book on the catastrophic impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans. The disaster will go down on record as one of the worst in American history, not least because of the government's inept and cavalier response. But it is also a huge story for other reasons; the impact of



the hurricane was uneven, and race and class were deeply implicated in the unevenness. Hartman and. Squires assemble two dozen critical scholars and activists who present a multifaceted portrait of the social implications of the disaster. The book covers the response to the disaster and the roles that race and class played, its impact on housing and redevelopment, the historical context of urban disasters in America and the future of economic development in the region. It offers strategic guidance for key actors - government agencies, financial institutions, neighbourhood organizations - in efforts to rebuild shattered communities.

**poverty and race research action council: Reclaiming Integration and the Language of Race in the "Post-Racial" Era** Curtis L. Ivery, Joshua Bassett, 2015-09-03 The book is divided into two major sections: (1) "Reclaiming Integration"; (2) "Reclaiming the Language of Race." Both sections are located in the context of the "post-racial" era and analyzed by nationally renowned scholars in various dimensions. The purpose of this organization is to link structural efforts to encourage voluntary integration with discursive efforts to broaden our social understanding of race in ways that advance the project of American democracy. It is our firm belief that we cannot achieve meaningful advances against enduring racial inequalities without linking structural impacts of racialization (e.g., racial inequalities in economics, education, healthcare, etc.) to the social discourse of race, specifically in terms of the rejection of post-racial politics that are based on the false idea that racism and discrimination are no longer obstacles to opportunity in the United States.

**poverty and race research action council: Housing Policy in the United States** Alex F. Schwartz, 2021-04-28 The fourth edition of Housing Policy in the United States refreshes its classic, foundational coverage of the field with new data, analysis, and comparative focus. This landmark volume offers a broad overview that synthesizes a wide range of material to highlight the significant problems, concepts, programs and debates that all define the aims, challenges, and milestones within and involving housing policy. Expanded discussion in this edition centers on state and local activity to produce and preserve affordable housing, the impact and the implications of reduced financial incentives for homeowners. Other features of this new edition include: • Analysis of the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 on housing-related tax expenditures; • Review of the state of fair housing programs in the wake of the Trump Administration's rollback of several key programs and policies; • Cross-examination of U.S. housing policy and conditions in an international context. Featuring the latest available data on housing patterns and conditions, this is an excellent companion for graduate and advanced undergraduate courses in urban studies, urban planning, sociology and social policy, and housing policy.

**poverty and race research action council: Clearinghouse Review**, 1993

**poverty and race research action council: Ethnicity, Race, and Health in Multicultural Societies** Raj S Bhopal, 2007-01-11 Most of the industrialized world now comprises of multi-ethnic societies, with people from widely varying ancestry, cultures, languages, and beliefs. With globalization of trade, increasing international travel, and migration, the whole world is destined to become multi-ethnic within the next 20 or 30 years. This poses huge challenges for doctors, nurses, public health practitioners, health care managers, and policy makers who have to meet legal and policy obligations to deliver health outcomes, and provide health care of equal quality and effectiveness. To achieve this, they need a solid understanding of the underlying concepts of race and ethnicity, and how these are applied to achieve better health for ethnic minority populations. They also need to have an awareness of the misuses of these concepts, particularly taking into account the history of racism that permeates many societies to this day. Written in non-technical language, with all terminology explained and defined, this book provides an accessible introduction to these complex issues. The key concepts of race and ethnicity are explained, including their uses and misuses. The strengths and weaknesses of these concepts in terms of epidemiology, policy making, health service planning, research, health care, and health promotion are illustrated. The book emphasises theory, ideas, and principles, and its aims are to help counteract the unethical and atheoretical methods often used to study ethnicity. Practical application of the theory is demonstrated through the use of extensive examples. The conceptual frameworks of ethnicity and

race required by practitioners and researchers are slightly different, including the nature of research questions, the relative value of various methods of classification, and the approach to data analysis, presentation, and interpretation, and these differences are made explicit. Overall, the interdependence of theory and practice is demonstrated, making this an ideal foundation text or refresher for those involved in race and ethnicity from a health care perspective.

**poverty and race research action council: Fire in the Heart** Mark R. Warren, 2010-09-02  
Fire in the Heart uncovers the dynamic processes through which some white Americans become activists for racial justice. The book reports powerful accounts of the development of racial awareness drawn from in-depth interviews with fifty white activists in the fields of community organizing, education, and criminal justice reform. Drawing extensively on the rich interview material, Mark Warren shows how white Americans can develop a commitment to racial justice, not just because it is the right thing to do, but because they embrace the cause as their own. Contrary to much contemporary thinking on racial issues focused on altruism or interests, Warren finds that cognitive and rational processes alone do little to move whites to action. Rather, the motivation to take and sustain action for racial justice is profoundly moral and relational. Warren shows how white activists come to find common cause with people of color when their core values are engaged, as they build relationships with people of color that lead to caring, and when they develop a vision of a racially just future that they understand to benefit everyone--themselves, other whites, and people of color. Warren also considers the complex dynamics and dilemmas white people face in working in multiracial organizations committed to systemic change in America's racial order, and provides a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role that white people can play in efforts to promote racial justice. The first study of its kind, Fire in the Heart brings to light the perspectives of white people who are working day-to-day to build not a post-racial America but the foundations for a truly multiracial America rooted in a caring, human community with equity and justice at its core.

**poverty and race research action council: The Affordable Housing Reader** Elizabeth Mueller, J. Rosie Tighe, 2022-07-14  
This second edition of The Affordable Housing Reader provides context for current discussions surrounding housing policy, emphasizing the values and assumptions underlying debates over strategies for ameliorating housing problems experienced by low-income residents and communities of color. The authors highlighted in this updated volume address themes central to housing as an area of social policy and to understanding its particular meaning in the United States. These include the long history of racial exclusion and the role that public policy has played in racializing access to decent housing and well-served neighborhoods; the tension between the economic and social goals of housing policy; and the role that housing plays in various aspects of the lives of low- and moderate-income residents. Scholarship and the COVID-19 pandemic are raising awareness of the link between access to adequate housing and other rights and opportunities. This timely reader focuses attention on the results of past efforts and on the urgency of reframing the conversation. It is both an exciting time to teach students about the evolution of United States' housing policy and a challenging time to discuss what policymakers or practitioners can do to effect positive change. This reader is aimed at students, professors, researchers, and professionals of housing policy, public policy, and city planning.

**poverty and race research action council: Getting by** Helen Hershkoff, Stephen Loffredo, 2020  
Getting By offers an integrated, critical account of the federal laws and programs that most directly affect poor and low-income people in the United States--the unemployed, the underemployed, and the low-wage employed, whether working in or outside the home. The central aim is to provide a resource for individuals and groups trying to access benefits, secure rights and protections, and mobilize for economic justice. The topics covered include cash assistance, employment and labor rights, food assistance, health care, education, consumer and banking law, housing assistance, rights in public places, access to justice, and voting rights. This comprehensive volume is appropriate for law school and undergraduate courses, and is a vital resource for policy makers, journalists, and others interested in social welfare policy in the United States.

**poverty and race research action council: Shared Prosperity in America's Communities**

Susan M. Wachter, Lei Ding, 2016-04-06 *Shared Prosperity in America's Communities* examines the degree to which place matters in the geography of economic opportunity; offers strategies to address the challenges of place-based inequality; and shows how communities across the nation are implementing change and building a future of shared prosperity.

**poverty and race research action council:** *Moving toward Integration* Richard H. Sander, Yana A. Kucheva, Jonathan M. Zasloff, 2018-05-07 Reducing residential segregation has proven to be the best way to reduce racial inequality in employment, earnings, test scores, and longevity. *Moving toward Integration* explains why racial segregation has been resilient, and how public policy, aligned with demographic trends, can achieve housing integration within a generation.

**poverty and race research action council:** *The New Political Economy of Urban Education* Pauline Lipman, 2013-05-13 Urban education and its contexts have changed in powerful ways. Old paradigms are being eclipsed by global forces of privatization and markets and new articulations of race, class, and urban space. These factors and more set the stage for Pauline Lipman's insightful analysis of the relationship between education policy and the neoliberal economic, political, and ideological processes that are reshaping cities in the United States and around the globe. Using Chicago as a case study of the interconnectedness of neoliberal urban policies on housing, economic development, race, and education, Lipman explores larger implications for equity, justice, and the right to the city. She draws on scholarship in critical geography, urban sociology and anthropology, education policy, and critical analyses of race. Her synthesis of these lenses gives added weight to her critical appraisal and hope for the future, offering a significant contribution to current arguments about urban schooling and how we think about relations between neoliberal education reforms and the transformation of cities. By examining the cultural politics of why and how these relationships resonate with people's lived experience, Lipman pushes the analysis one step further toward a new educational and social paradigm rooted in radical political and economic democracy.

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