

HOUSING AND THE LAW: LESSON 4: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the majority's arguments in the *Buchanan* decision?
 - a. What would the counter argument be?

2. The *Corrigan* decision helped reinforce racist housing practices. What are the majority's arguments in the *Corrigan* decision?
 - a. What would the counter argument be?

3. Racially restrictive covenants became more prominent in American cities after the *Corrigan* ruling, threatening African Americans civil liberties to equal housing.
 - a. Should African Americans have followed local laws even though they threatened their civil rights? Why or why not?

4. *Buchanan v. Warley* was viewed as a victory in the fight against racial segregation in housing. However, segregation continued in other local policies like racial covenants.
 - a. Does this mean that *Buchanan v. Warley* was ultimately ineffective?
 - i. Why or Why not?

WRITING PROMPT

The court’s protection of property rights benefitted Black Americans and limited the state’s capacity to carry out racist policies. In the long run, though, property rights have been used to limit Black Americans’ access to housing, protect the interests of White people, and further segregate communities.

- While *Buchanan* was a victory against one form of racial segregation, did it ultimately undermine African Americans’ struggle for civil rights in housing? Why or why not?