Twitter Thread by Anti-Discrimination Center (Craig Gurian, ED)



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@antibiaslaw



How come the mayoral candidates haven't been asked whether they agree with the de Blasio administration's separate-but-equal defense to the Fair Housing Act lawsuit challenging NYC's discriminatory "community preference" policy, https://t.co/oEP4CxHgyp" target="_blank">@JeffCMays?

https://t.co/oEP4CxHgyp (1/10)

The candidates, @ShantRS, have been falling all over themselves claiming their civil rights bona fides. But, on this issue, they've been silent. (2/10)

There have been more than a MILLION households in NYC that have participated in affordable housing lotteries, @sallygold, so that system's denial of a level playing field is a critical issue that any mayoral candidate genuinely interested in civil rights needs to speak to. (3/10)

Contrary to what you hear from those professionally invested in maintaining the status quo, @JCColtin, TONS of applicants are interested in applying outside of their community districts. (4/10)

In fact, @RossBarkan, about 85 percent of housing lottery applicants apply outside of their CD at least 75 percent of the time. True for all races. (5/10)

The data are clear, @tweetbenmax, that Black New Yorkers are disadvantaged when applying to lotteries in majority-White CDs. https://t.co/CbZVWBl7Ra

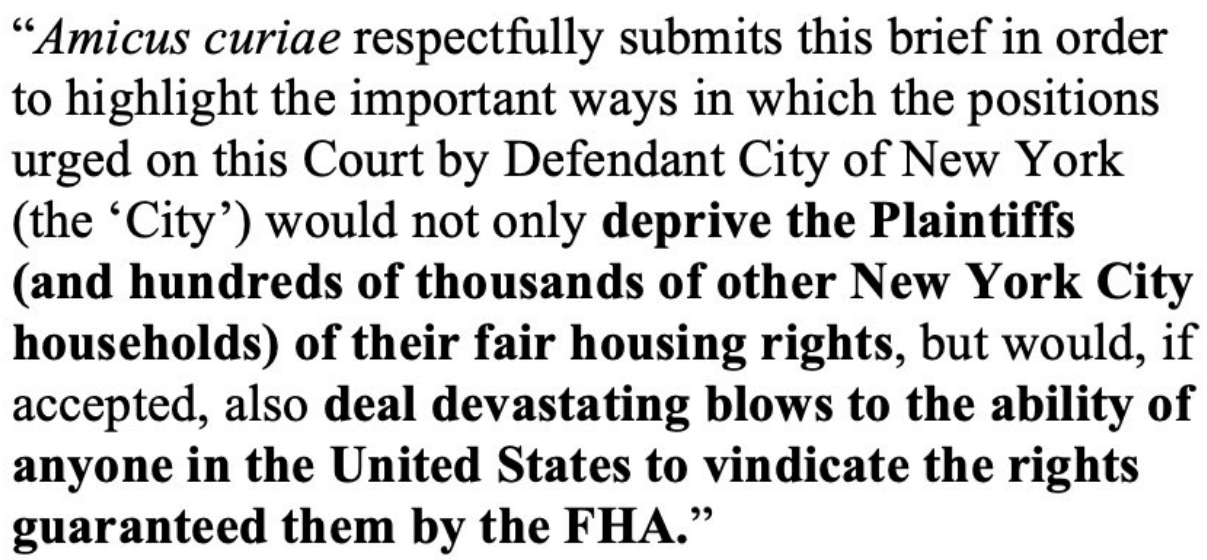
So what is the City's answer to this clearly illegal disparate impact? (6/10)

That the disadvantage to Black New Yorkers when applying to lotteries in majority-White CDs is "offset" by the advantage Black New Yorkers get if applying to stay in majority-Black CDs.

Separate-but-equal in a nutshell, @harrysiegel. (7/10)

Under the Fair Housing Act, @ndhapple, you're supposed to be able to have a level playing field to compete for affordable housing regardless of where in the city you are coming from and regardless of where you choose to move. (8/10)

The City's defenses — including separate-but-equal — are so appalling, @errollouis, that @lawyerscomm, a leading national civil rights organization, has filed an amicus brief in which it writes that the defenses are dangerous to fair housing enforcement everywhere. (9/10)


"*Amicus curiae* respectfully submits this brief in order to highlight the important ways in which the positions urged on this Court by Defendant City of New York (the 'City') would not only **deprive the Plaintiffs (and hundreds of thousands of other New York City households) of their fair housing rights**, but would, if accepted, also **deal devastating blows to the ability of anyone in the United States to vindicate the rights guaranteed them by the FHA.**"

And don't forget, @SquarePegDem, that the policy greatly stymies pro-integrative moves that lottery applicants want to make. This illegal perpetuation of segregation occurs as between all racial/ethnic pairings (White/Black, Black/Hispanic, etc.). https://t.co/fx8oCUqKBp (10/10)