The Kerner Report: 50 Years Later

Thursday
March 1, 2018
9 am - 11 am

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Fred Harris
Former U.S. Senator & Kerner Commission Member

Panelists
Timuel Black
Former Mayor of Berkeley & Civil Rights Activist

Gus Newport
Former Mayor of Berkeley & Civil Rights Activist

Dr. Gail Christopher
Former Vice President W K Kellogg Foundation

Willie J.R. Fleming
Chicago Anti-Eviction Campaign

José Lopez
Puerto Rican Cultural Center

Anthony Lowery
Safer Foundation

In the aftermath of the 1967 urban ‘riots’, President Lyndon B. Johnson established the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, known as the Kerner Commission after its chair, Governor Otto Kerner, Jr. of Illinois. The 11-member commission examined the conditions of the cities that led to the turmoil and made recommendations addressing the underlying causes. The Commission’s report, released on February 29, 1968, marks a pivotal moment in the changing dynamics of U.S. cities and of critical analysis of the role of race as a division in America.

Special guest speaker Dr. Fred Harris is an original member of the Kerner Commission – and the last surviving member. Elected to the U.S. Senate from the state of Oklahoma in 1964, Senator Harris quickly became one of the most active members of the Senate and was deeply concerned about the plight of economically deprived inner-city African Americans, recognizing that unequal treatment of urban neighborhoods was one of the determining factors in the urban unrests of the 1960s.

Revolution ‘67

Documentary viewing and discussion

Tuesday, February 27, 2018
12 pm - 1:30 pm
at Great Cities Institute

Soul of Justice: Thelton Henderson

Documentary viewing and discussion

Wednesday, February 28, 2018
12 pm - 1:30 pm
at Great Cities Institute

Tales of a Human Rights Activist

Conversation with
Eugene ‘Gus’ Newport
Former Mayor of Berkeley & Civil Rights Activist

Reflections on the Kerner Report: Race and Inequality in the 1960s

Panel Discussion
Dr. Jane Rhodes
Professor, African American Studies
Dr. Cedric Johnson
Associate Professor, African American Studies
Dr. Amanda Lewis
Director, Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy

Monday, February 26, 2018
2 pm - 3:30 pm
at Great Cities Institute

For more information on these events, visit our website greatcities.uic.edu

For disability accommodations please contact Christiana Kinder, (312) 996-8700 or christia@uic.edu.