# **Confederate Memorials and the Housing Market**

T. Clifton Green, Russell Jame, Jaemin Lee, and Jaeyeon Lee\*

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#### Abstract

Houses on streets with names that honor the Confederacy sell for 3% less than other similar nearby houses. The effect is concentrated outside the South and in regions with greater Black populations and more left-leaning voters, and it increases following attention-grabbing events that highlight the racial underpinnings of Confederate symbols. We find that removing Confederate school names is associated with significant price increases for houses located in the district. Aversion to houses on Confederate streets also holds in experimental setting where house attributes are otherwise identical. The findings suggest that Confederate memorials can have direct effects on asset markets.

JEL: G1, G51, H7, R21, R28, R31

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<sup>\*</sup> Green and Jaemin Lee are from Goizueta Business School, Emory University (<a href="clifton.green@emory.edu">clifton.green@emory.edu</a>; <a href="jaemin.lee@emory.edu">jaemin.lee@emory.edu</a>). Jame is from the Gatton College of Business and Economics, University of Kentucky, <a href="russell.jame@uky.edu">russell.jame@uky.edu</a>. Jaeyeon Lee is from Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley. <a href="jaeyeon\_lee@berkeley.edu">jaeyeon\_lee@berkeley.edu</a>. We thank Isaac Hacamo and seminar participants at Emory University for helpful comments.

#### 1. Introduction

Public debate regarding US Civil War Confederate memorials has intensified in recent years. The discussion centers on whether such memorials reflect underlying racism, particularly against Black Americans, or more innocuous Southern pride. While early Confederate memorials were typically located in cemeteries to honor the dead, more celebratory images such as Confederate generals on horseback began to be placed in public spaces during the Jim Crow era of the early 1900s, with another round of memorials occurring during the Civil Rights era of the 1950s-1960s. While statues in public spaces can carry strong symbolic meaning, Confederate memorials may also have direct economic effects on asset markets. In this article, we study the housing market implications of Confederate memorials by examining houses located on streets that honor the Confederacy.

We analyze residential streets that contain words that are widely associated with the Confederacy. We measure property characteristics and sale prices from 2001-2020 using data collected from local government offices by ATTOM, a private data provider. Our primary sample is comprised of 5,895 home sales located on 1,446 Confederate memorial streets in 35 different states. Our identification approach involves comparing Confederate house sales with nearby non-Confederate houses that sold during the same calendar quarter.

Within a census-tract quarter, we find that Confederate properties are similar to non-Confederate properties along observable house attributes with the exception that Confederate houses tend to be older than control properties. Accordingly, in our main specification, we compare

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For example, a 2020 poll of Florida voters suggests that a majority (51 percent) view the Confederate battle flag as an emblem of racism, whereas 38 percent see it as a symbol of Southern pride. The fraction of voters viewing the Confederate flag as racist rises to 79% for the subset of Black voters. <a href="https://poll.qu.edu/Poll-Release?releaseid=3783">https://poll.qu.edu/Poll-Release?releaseid=3783</a> <sup>2</sup> The Confederate Mound at Oak Woods Cemetery in Chicago, dedicated in 1895, is a prominent example of early funereal monuments. The installation of the Robert E. Lee statue in Charlottesville Virginia in 1924 typifies the second phase of memorials, and Stone Mountain Park in Georgia, purchased by the state in 1958 and house to a colossal mountainside carving of Confederate generals, exemplifies the third phase.

Confederate and non-Confederate transactions that took place in the same calendar quarter, within the same census tract, and within the same age quintile, while also directly controlling for the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, house age, building size, and lot size.

We find that houses on Confederate streets transact at prices that are 2.93% lower than similar non-Confederate properties. The mean house value during our sample is \$240K, which translates into a dollar Confederate discount of roughly \$7,000. The effect is robust to a number of alternative specifications, including finer geographic partitions (e.g., replacing census tract fixed effects with block-group fixed effects) or interacting census tract × quarter fixed effects with other house attributes (e.g., indicators for the number of bedrooms or bathrooms, or building size or lot size quintiles).

If the negative association between Confederate street names and house values reflect concerns of racism, the relation is likely to be stronger in certain regions. In particular, we posit that Confederate street discounts are likely to be larger outside of the South, as well as in regions with a higher Black population, more left-leaning voters, and higher levels of education. We first contrast the 11 former Confederate states with the remaining 24 states represented in the sample. The Confederate street effect on house values is -1.93% and insignificant in Confederate states, compared with -4.18% and strongly significant outside the former Confederate states. Focusing on the five former Confederate states with the most Confederate memorial statues, the Confederate street house effect is an insignificant 0.64%, compared with a significant -4.33% for the remaining 30 states. At the country level, we further categorize properties into two groups based on racial, political, and educational demographic information. We observe that the Confederate street house value discount is more robust in regions with a higher proportion of Black residents and more democratic voters, and higher education levels.

Although public concern about Confederate memorials has been generally evident throughout our sample period, <sup>3</sup> events that raise awareness of the racial underpinnings of Confederate symbols may amplify the Confederate discounts. We measure variation in attention to Confederate symbols using Google search intensity for the term "Confederate Flag." We observe three noticeable spikes that correspond to the church shooting in Charleston, South Carolina in June 2015; the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia in August 2017, and the widespread Black Lives Matter protests against police brutality and racism that reached a peak in June of 2020. Using a staggered difference-in-difference (DID) approach, we analyze the Confederate house street effect in the four quarters before and after the events. We find that Confederate street houses sell at an incremental -4.22% discount in the year following the event and an -8.13% discount in the quarter following the event.

We next examine whether Confederate houses experience different listing experiences. In particular, for each Confederate and control property, we gather information from Zillow on time on the market, including listing removals as well as any price declines during the listing period. Compared to other similar nearby properties, Confederate homes are 9% more likely to have a slow sale, defined as being in the largest quintile of sell duration, and they are 10% more likely to be in the top quintile of sale discounts relative to listing price.

Changing perceptions of Confederate memorials have led to a number of name changes in recent years. While relatively few individual streets have been renamed to date, using data from the Southern Poverty Law Center, we are able to identify 23 elementary, middle, and high schools with names that were related to the Confederacy (as defined in our street analysis), that subsequently changed names during our sample period, and have relevant house information

<sup>3</sup> For example, in 2001 the Georgia state legislature acted to remove the Confederate battle emblem from the state flag, after adding the emblem to the flag in 1956.

available. In particular, we gather data from Zillow for school assignments for each house in the zip codes of name change schools. Using a staggered difference-in-difference empirical design, we find that houses located in Confederate school districts experience a 4.3% price increase in the three years following removing the Confederate school name relative to otherwise similar houses located in the same zip code. While the name changes are not exogenous, and in particular they may be more likely to occur where concern about Confederate symbols is high, the evidence supports the view that aversion to Confederate memorials can influence house values.

Although our analysis controls for available house characteristics, concerns may remain that unobservable characteristics could influence the results. We therefore also consider an experimental setting that allows us to examine potential homebuyers' choices in an environment where houses are truly identical except for street name. In particular, we conduct an experiment in which 1000 participants are asked to choose between pairs of houses with pictures and street names provided. In this setting, we are able to vary house-name assignments across participants to isolate the effect of a Confederate street name on house choice. Consistent with the archival evidence, we find that respondents are significantly less likely to select a home on a Confederate Street on average, and the effect is stronger among the participants who are likely to view Confederate memorials more negatively.

In our final analysis, we collect demographic information for every homeowner in the state of Florida to explore whether certain groups are averse to owning houses on Confederate streets. Compared to houses in the same block group and same percentile of home value, houses on Confederate streets are 30% less likely to be owned by Black residents, 20% less likely to be owned by registered Democrats, and 17% less likely to be owned by individuals with a college education. The demographic evidence is consistent with residential sorting, and the findings

support the view that the Confederate street transaction price effect is related to homeowner preferences.

Our analysis adds to the literature that studies how political ideologies influence financial decision making in a variety of settings. Hong and Kacperczyk (2009) show that "sin" stocks (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, and gaming companies) have lower relative valuations, consistent with reduced social preferences for these industries, and Hong and Kostovetsky (2012) document that democratic-leaning mutual fund managers are less likely to invest in in companies that are deemed socially irresponsible. Homanen (2018) finds reduced deposit growth at banks that financed the Dakota Access Pipeline, specifically in socially conscious counties. Kempf and Tsoutsoura (2021) find evidence that credit analysts' political perceptions influence corporate credit ratings, and Duchin et al., (2021) find evidence that political attitudes influence corporate merger outcomes. Barber, Morse, and Yasuda (2021) estimate that venture capital investors are willing to forgo roughly 3 percentage points in expected IRR when investing in funds whose objective is to generate positive social and environmental impact. We adopt a similar framework to examine house buyers' views of Confederate Street names. Our findings provide new market-based evidence that Confederate Street names are viewed negatively by many prospective house buyers.

Our findings contribute specifically to recent literature that focuses on how political views influence real estate investment decisions and prices. Much of this literature has focused on partisan views of climate change. For example, Bernstein et al. (2021) find that Democrats are significantly less likely to own houses exposed to sea level rise relative to Republicans. Similarly, Bernstein, Gustafson, and Lewis (2019) and Baldauf, Garlappi, and Yannelis (2020) find that

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Other work that presents evidence consistent with non-financial preferences influencing investment decisions includes Bollen (2007), Renneboog, ter Horst, and Zhang (2008), Riedl and Smeets (2017), Hartzmark and Sussman (2019), Baker et al. (2020), and Bauer, Ruof, and Smeets (2021).

houses exposed to sea level risk sell for significantly larger discounts in areas where homeowners are more likely to believe in climate change. Our evidence that discounts for Confederate streets are concentrated in areas with a higher Black population, more left-leaning voters, and higher levels of education, reinforces the views that differences in political ideology can have a sizeable impact on real estate prices.

### 2. Data and Descriptive Statistics

## 2.1 The Confederate Transactions Sample

Our primary source of data is ATTOM Data Solutions, which collects housing data from local government recorder and assessor offices. The recorder data provides the sale price of the property (*Price*), its address, transaction date, and transaction deed type (e.g., foreclosure sales, or arms-length deal). The assessor data provides property-specific attributes. We limit the sample to transactions for which assessor data contains non-missing information for the following five property characteristics: the size of the house in square feet (*House Size*), the size of the lot in square feet (*Lot Size*), the number of bedrooms (*Bedrooms*), the number of bathrooms (*Bathrooms*), and the number of years since the house was first built (*Age*). Following Graham and Markidis (2020), we restrict the sample to arm's-length, non-foreclosed sales of residential properties with sales prices of at least \$10,000. Finally, since ATTOM's coverage prior to 2000 is very sparse, we limit the sample to transactions that occur between 2001-2020.

We identify addresses that honor the Confederacy (*Confederate streets*) by searching for street names that contains words associated with the Confederacy. Specifically, we consider addresses that contain variants of the word "Confederate," as well as "Dixie" which is the Confederacy's unofficial national anthem and a term commonly used to describe the 11 Southern states that seceded to form the Confederacy. We also consider addresses containing "Jefferson

Davis," who was elected President of the Confederate States, "Robert E. Lee," who acted as the commander of the Confederate States Army, or "Thomas 'Stonewall' Jackson," who was another prominent Confederate military leader.<sup>5</sup>

For the set of control properties, we select houses that do not contain Confederate terms in their address name, and we require control houses to be located in the same census tract (offering roughly twice the granularity of zip codes) as the Confederate property and to have sold in the same calendar quarter. We limit the sample to census tract-quarter groups with at least one Confederate and one non-Confederate house transaction.

#### 2.2 Descriptive Statistics

Panel A of Table 1 provides summary statistics. The sample contains 5,895 Confederate property transactions for 4,052 unique Confederate properties. The Confederate sample includes 1,446 different streets, 574 census tracts, 254 different counties, and 35 different states. The control sample includes 80,304 transactions across 32,657 streets. Figure 1 displays the distribution of Confederate house transactions across states. Unsurprisingly, the highest concentration of Confederate transactions occurs in the Southeast. However, there are a considerable number of Confederate streets in other parts of the county including left-leaning states in the West and the Northeast (e.g., California and Massachusetts) as well as more conservative areas in the Midwest (e.g., Nebraska and Indiana). We note that some states, such as Texas, do not mandate public disclosure of house transactions (colored gray in the map), and therefore the ATTOM sample contains relatively few observations from these states. <sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For example, the large mountainside carving at Stone Mountain Park in Georgia is comprised of Davis, Lee, and Jackson on horseback.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Excluding non-disclosure states from the sample has little effect on the findings.

Panel B of Table 1 reports the distribution of the housing attributes. The median house in the sample sells for \$180,000, has 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, and is 25 years old. The means of the continuous variables: (*Price*, *House Size*, *Lot Size*, and *Age*) are larger than the medians, and we use natural logs going forward to reduce the effects of outliers on the analysis. Panel C reports the correlation matrix for the variables. Intuitively, *Price* is positively correlated with *House Size*, *Lot Size*, *Bedrooms*, and *Bathrooms*, and negatively correlated with *Age*. We also observe that *Confederate* exhibits meaningful correlations with several house attributes. In particular, Confederate houses tend to be older and smaller yet are positioned on larger lots.

### 3. Identification Approach

A challenge to assessing the impact of Confederate street names on house prices is determining the counterfactual price that would have occurred if the property were located on a non-Confederate street. Our approach is to compare Confederate properties to non-Confederate properties that are sold nearby (within the same census tract) and at roughly the same time (within the same calendar quarter) after controlling for differences in observable house characteristics.

Specifically, we estimate the following hedonic regressions:

$$Log(Price)_{it} = \alpha + \beta Confederate_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \varepsilon_{it}, \tag{1}$$

where the dependent variable,  $Log(Price)_{it}$ , is the natural log of property i's sales price in quarter t. The independent variable of interest is  $Confederate_{it}$ , which is an indicator equal to one if the house is located on a Confederate street and zero otherwise.  $X_{it}$  is a vector of house attributes that includes indicators for the specific number of bedrooms and bathrooms (up to five), and the natural logs of Lot Size, House Size, and Age. We consider different sets of fixed effects (FE) in the model

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> In untabulated analysis, we replace Log (*Lot Size*), Log (*House Size*), and Log (*Age*) with 100 separate indicators each for lot size, house size, and age percentiles. The results are very similar.

specifications. For example, to benchmark Confederate properties to non-Confederate properties that sold in nearby locations at roughly the same time, we include census tract × quarter fixed effects.

An additional concern is that the value of house characteristics might vary across census tract and time. For example, it is possible that older houses may sell at a premium in some areas and a discount in others. We address this concern by partitioning the house attribute into quintiles (relative to other houses that sold in the same census tract and quarter) and including the triple interaction to create census tract × quarter × house attribute quintile fixed effects. The number of control transactions in each census tract × quarter is relatively modest (12 for the median tract-quarter), which limits us to interacting census tract × quarter with one house attribute at a time. In our main analysis we report the results for *Age* since this variable exhibits the strongest correlation with *Confederate* (see Panel C of Table 1). We report the results for other attributes in robustness analysis.

Our identifying assumption is that after controlling for the observable house attributes and fixed effects, any observable or unobservable characteristics that influences house prices will be similar between Confederate and non-Confederate properties except for street name. Although we cannot examine whether Confederate and non-Confederate properties differ with respect to unobservable variables, we can explore whether the identifying assumption holds for the subset of observable variables. Specifically, we estimate Equation (1) after replacing  $Log(Price)_{i,t}$  with a house attribute (e.g., Lot Size) after removing that attribute as a control variable. The coefficient on Confederate thus captures whether there is a significant difference between Confederate and non-Confederate properties with respect to the attribute after including all the remaining control variables and fixed effects.

Table 2 reports the results of this analysis for each of the five house attributes used as control variables. Columns 1 and 2 report the differences (and *t*-stats) between Confederate and non-Confederate properties prior to including any fixed effects or controls, which is analogous to the simple correlations reported in Panel C of Table 1. Columns 3 and 4 report the differences after including the full set of controls and tract × quarter fixed effects, and Columns 5 and 6 report the differences after including the full set of controls and tract × quarter × age quintile fixed effects. The first row reports the results for log (*House Size*). We see that prior to including controls, Confederate houses are 7.2% smaller than non-Confederate houses. However, this difference falls to 1.44% after including controls and tract × quarter fixed effects and 0.45% after including controls and tract × quarter × age quintile fixed effects. In other words, although there are differences in house size between Confederate and non-Confederate properties, even if we could not directly control for *House Size*, our remaining controls and fixed effects effectively eliminate these differences. We observe similar patterns for Log (*Lot Size*), *Bedrooms*, and *Bathrooms*.

Consistent with Panel C of Table 1, the largest difference between Confederate and Non-Confederate properties is age, 56.3% prior to any controls. Although we control for age in all of the analyses, the correlation raises concerns that the value effects of house age may vary by region and/or over time. We observe in Column 5 that including tract × quarter × age quintile fixed effects reduces the difference in age between Confederate and control properties to an economically small and statistically significant 1.5%. The evidence in Table 2 supports the view that our regression approach effectively controls for observable value-relevant house characteristics.

# 4. Confederate Memorial Streets and Housing Outcomes

In this section, we study the implications of Confederate street names for housing outcomes. Section 4.1 presents the baseline pricing results, Section 4.2 present several robustness

checks, Sections 4.3-4.5 explore cross-sectional and time-series heterogeneity in the pricing of Confederate properties, and Section 4.6 considers other housing market outcomes including listing time and listing withdrawals.

# 4.1 Confederate Streets and House Prices – Baseline Results

In Table 3, we present the results from estimating Equation (1) using different sets of fixed effects. In Specification 1, we include quarter fixed effects. The coefficient on *Confederate* is - 4.70%, which is statistically significant based on standard errors clustered at the census tract level.<sup>8</sup> In Specification 2, we control for geographical variation in house prices by adding census tract fixed effects. Specification 3 interacts tract fixed effects with quarter fixed effects, allowing for the geographical variation in prices to vary across time. The inclusion of tract × quarter fixed effects results in slightly smaller discount relative to Specification 1 (4.21% versus 4.70%). However, the inclusion of the richer set of fixed effects results in a dramatic increase in the R-squared (81.52% versus 42.57%) and reduces the standard error of the estimate by roughly 50%.

Finally, given that differences in age between Confederate and non-Confederate properties potentially remain relevant after including tract × quarter fixed effects (see Columns 3 and 4 of Table 2), in Specification 4 we include tract × quarter × age quintile fixed effects. This specification helps to control for variation in the age discount (or premium) across regions and time. A disadvantage of this specification is that it shrinks the sample size, since 22% of all Confederate transactions have no corresponding control property (i.e., a non-Confederate property that sold in the same census tract, quarter, and age quintile). We find a slightly reduced, but

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Clustering by both census tract and quarter results in virtually identical standard errors.

statistically significant estimate of -2.93%. The estimate also remains economically significant. In particular, the estimate translates to a roughly \$7,000 discount for the average house in our sample  $(2.93\% \times \$241,911)$ .

We also note that the R-squared from Model 4 increases to more than 88%. As pointed out by Oster (2019), the sizeable increase in R-squared as we include a richer set of fixed effects, coupled with the coefficient stability for the variable of interest, helps alleviate concerns that unobservable omitted variables drive the estimates. For example, if we conservatively assume that the maximum possible R-squared is 100% and that unobservables are equally as important as observables (i.e.,  $\delta = 1$ ), a comparison of Specifications 1 and 4 would suggest that the true estimate on *Confederate* is -2.43%, which would still be statistically significant at a 5% under the (conservative) assumption that the standard errors remain unchanged from Specification 4.<sup>10</sup>

#### 4.2 Confederate Streets and House Prices – Additional Models

Although our approach carefully controls for house age, concern may remain that the price effects of other important controls may exhibit significant variation across regions and time. The relatively small sample of transactions within a census tract quarter prevent us from interacting census tract  $\times$  quarter with all control variables simultaneously. Instead, we interact census tract  $\times$  quarter with each of the five control variables individually. For the continuous variables (*Age*,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The reduced estimate could stem from either the revised specification or because some Confederate properties are effectively excluded from the analysis due a lack of a non-Confederate control. To explore the relative importance of these two channels, we repeat Specification 3 after excluding the 22% of Confederate transactions that are effectively excluded in Specification 4. We find that the revised estimate (-3.68%) falls roughly midway between the estimates in Specifications 3 and 4, suggesting that both factors contribute to the decline.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Specifically, Following Oster (2019), we estimate:  $B^* = B^* - \delta [B(0) - B^*) \times (R_{max} - R^*)/R(0)]$ , where  $B^*$  equals the true (unobservable) estimate;  $B^* = \text{estimate}$  with full set of observable controls; B(0) = estimate with smaller set of observable controls;  $R_{max} = \text{maximum}$  possible R-squared;  $R^* = R$ -squared with full set of controls; R(0) = R-squared with smaller set of observables, and  $R^* = R$ -squared with full set of observables. The estimates for the full set of observable controls (i.e.,  $R^* = R$ -squared in  $R^* = R$ -squared with full set of observables. The estimates for the full set of observable controls (i.e.,  $R^* = R$ -squared in  $R^* = R$ -squared with full set of observables. The estimates for the full set of observable controls (i.e.,  $R^* = R$ -squared with full set of observables. The estimates from the model with the smaller set of controls (i.e.,  $R^* = R$ -squared with full set of observables.

House Size, and Lot Size) we interact census tract × quarter with the quintile ranking of the variable (relative to other house that sold in same census tract and quarter), and for Bed (Bath), we interact census tract × quarter with five separate indicators for houses with one, two, three, four, or five or more bedrooms (bathrooms). We tabulate the estimates and the 95% confidence intervals for each model in Figure 2. For reference, the first column reports the estimates for census tract × quarter × age fixed effects and is therefore identical to the baseline results reported in Specification 4 of Table 3. We find that the estimate on Confederate when controlling for the other four attributes are very similar and range from -2.71% (House Size) to -3.17% (Bathrooms).

A second concern is that heterogeneity in house quality within the census tract (roughly half as large as a zip code) is driving our finding. To alleviate this concern, we more finely partition regions to the census block group, which is typically about one-quarter the size of the census tract. Because census blocks are considerably smaller than census tracts, 22% of Confederate transactions do not have a corresponding non-Confederate property that sells in the same quarter. Despite the smaller sample size, we continue to find significant negative estimates.

### 4.3 Confederate Streets and House Prices – The Role of Homeowner Demographics

Views on Confederate memorials vary considerably across race, political affiliation, and education levels. For example, in a 2015 Gallup survey, 69% of people who identify as Black, 58% of Democrats, and 48% of individuals with a postgraduate education viewed the Confederate Flag as a symbol as racism, whereas the corresponding estimates for White respondents, Republicans, and individuals with no college education are 27%, 13%, and 28%, respectively.<sup>11</sup>

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 $<sup>^{11} \</sup> The \ full \ survey \ results \ are \ available \ here: \ \underline{https://news.gallup.com/poll/184040/democrats-views-confederate-flag-increasingly-negative.aspx}$ 

Views also vary by region, with 31% of Southerners viewing the Confederate flag as a symbol of racism compared to 37% (39%) of individuals on the East (West) coast.

The stark differences across groups, coupled with the fact that the real-estate market tends to be illiquid and segmented (Piazzesi, Schneider, and Stroebel, 2020), suggests that the magnitude of the Confederate discount may vary significantly with the demographics of the prospective house buyers. In particular, we predict that the Confederate discount will be larger outside of the South and in areas with populations that are left-leaning, educated, and with a greater fraction of Black residents.

We consider two proxies for the South. The first is the group of eleven states that belonged to the Confederacy (*Confederate State*). <sup>12</sup> We also zoom in on the five states that have largest number of Confederate statues and monuments: Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, Texas, and Alabama (*Top 5 Confederate State*). <sup>13</sup> We supplement our state-level geography measure with county-level demographic information from two sources. Political affiliation is obtained from County Presidential Election Returns, provided by MIT Election Data and Science Lab. <sup>14</sup> The dataset provides county-level number of voters for the Democrat and Republican Party presidential candidate as well as the total number of voters for the five past presidential elections (2000-2016). For each county-year, we compute the percentage of Democratic party voters.

Ethnicity and education level information comes from the U.S. Census Bureau. We compute the percentage of Black residents (college graduates) out of the total population of adults for each county-year. <sup>15</sup> We partition the sample into groups based on whether the demographic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The specific states are: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

<sup>13</sup> https://www.splcenter.org/20190201/whose-heritage-public-symbols-confederacy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/VOQCHQ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> The Bureau provides actual number of residents by each ethnicity in 2000 and 2010, while providing the estimates during the other periods. We rely on the ethnicity estimates provided up to 2019. At the time of writing, the Bureau has released the estimates for 2020 but not the actual value.

variable for the county is above or below the median for a given quarter. The median sorts generate sizeable variation in our demographic variables of interest. For example, the fraction of Black residents in counties with above versus below median Black population is 27% versus 6%. <sup>16</sup>

We next estimate Equation (1) after partitioning *Confederate* into two groups: *Confederate High* and *Confederate Low*. *Confederate High* is the group where the predicted Confederate discount is larger (i.e., non-Confederate states, non-top 5 Confederate states, and counties with greater Black populations, more Democrats, and more educated residents). *Confederate Low* is the remaining group. We also separately test for whether the differences in the estimates between *Confederate High* and *Confederate Low* are statistically significant.

Table 4 reports the results. For all five partitioning variables, the estimate on *Confederate High* is statistically significant. The estimates on *Confederate Low* are always smaller than the estimate on *Confederate High*, and the estimates are generally not statistically significant. For example, Specification 1 indicates that the Confederate discount is a significant -4.18% in non-Confederate states compared to a statistically insignificant -1.93% in Confederate states. Although the Confederate effect is robust only among the predicted regions and demographics, we note that that the differences in estimates are often not reliably different from zero. Nevertheless, the evidence consistently suggests that the Confederate discount is concentrated in areas where we would expect aversion to Confederate memorials to be greater.

We gauge the joint predictability of the individual measures by constructing a composite measure which is the sum of four indicator variables: *Non-Top 5 Confederate State* + Black + *Democrat* + *College*. <sup>17</sup> We partition *Confederate* into *Confederate High Composite*, *Confederate* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The corresponding difference for Democrats is 58% versus 36%, and the difference for college educated is 34% versus 20%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> We do not include *Non-Confederate State* since it is strongly related to *Non-Top5 State*. Adding *Non-Confederate State* to the composite measure yields qualitatively similar results.

Mid Composite, and Confederate Low Composite, where High Composite (Low Composite) equals one if the composite score is above (below) the median value of 2, and Mid Composite equals one if the composite score is equal to the median value. Specification 6 reports the results. We find that the estimate on Confederate Low is a statistically insignificant 1.58% while the estimate on Confederate High is a highly significant -5.52%. Further, the difference between the high and low composite groups is economically large (-7.11%) and statistically significant.

### 4.4. Confederate House Prices and Market Liquidity

The evidence from the previous section suggests that there is considerable heterogeneity in how individuals perceive Confederate street names. We expect that the impact of heterogeneous preferences on prices should be more pronounced when markets are more illiquid (Piazzesi, Schneider, and Stroebel, 2020). For example, consider a highly illiquid market where there is only one prospective house buyer and many prospective sellers. If the one prospective buyer dislikes *Confederate* streets, then the Confederate property will only be sold if the seller offers a significant discount. On the other hand, in highly liquid (or "hot") markets where the number of prospective buyers exceeds the supply of houses, it is more likely that a house will receive multiple offers. In this case, the winning bid for a Confederate property is less likely to be from an individual who dislikes Confederate streets, and thus, the magnitude of the Confederate discount should be considerably smaller.

We measure market liquidity using the county-level price growth during the previous quarter as reported by Zillow Home Value Index (ZHVI). We define a market as "Liquid" if it is in the top quintile of price growth. Following Bernstein, Gustafson, and Lewis (2019), we also define a market as "Very Liquid" if it is in the top 5% of the distribution of price growth. We then

estimate Specification 4 of Table 3 for *Less Liquid* markets (the bottom four quintiles), *Liquid* markets, and *Very Liquid* markets.

Table 5 reports the results. Consistent with our conjecture, the Confederate discount is large in *Less Liquid* markets (-3.49%) and non-existent in *Liquid* markets (0.12%) or *Very Liquid* markets (-0.30%). Similarly, we expect that the cross-sectional differences document in Table 4 will be attenuated in more liquid markets. To test this prediction, we repeat Specifications 1-3 of Table 5 after interacting *Confederate* with *High Composite*, as defined in Table 4. The results of these analyses, reported in Specifications 4-6 of Table 5, are consistent with this prediction. In particular, the incremental effect of *High Composite* is strongest in less liquid markets (-7.46%) and weakest in *Very Liquid* markets (-0.11%).

# 4.5. Confederate House Prices: Shocks to the Saliency of Confederate Symbols

We hypothesize that the Confederate street effect is likely to be stronger after major events that result in increased attention to the racial underpinnings of Confederate symbols. Following Da, Engelberg, and Gao (2011), we measure attention to the Confederacy using Google search frequency for the term "Confederate Flag". Figure 3 plots the time-series variation in monthly search frequency from January 2004 through December 2020, where the values represent search intensity relatively to the maximum value. The figure indicates that the distribution of search intensity is highly skewed. For example, the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile is 4 and the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile is 7, out of maximum possible search score of 100.

The figure highlights three noticeable spikes in attention to the Confederate Flag. The first, and most dramatic (search score of 100), occurs in June of 2015, which corresponds to a mass shooting in Charleston, South Carolina. The shooter that killed nine Black parishioners at a Bible study had previously posted photos on his website with emblems associated with White supremacy

and the Confederate flag. The shooting generated significant debate on the modern display of the flag and other commemorations of the Confederacy, and afterwards the South Carolina General Assembly voted to remove the Confederate flag from State Capitol grounds.

The second spike (search score of 16) occurs in August 2017. This follows the "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. The organizers stated goals included the unification of the American White national movement and opposing the proposed removal of the Robert E. Lee statue. During the protest, a self-identified White supremacist intentionally drove his car into a group of counter-protesters, resulting in one death and numerous injuries. The third spike (search score of 44) occurs in June of 2020 and corresponds to the Black Live Matter (BLM) protests over police brutality and racial injustice. Survey evidence suggests that between 15 and 26 million people participated in BLM demonstrations over the death of George Floyd and others, making the protests the largest movement in America's history. <sup>18</sup> Following the protests, Mississippi lawmakers voted to change the state flag which contained the Confederate battle emblem.

To explore the impact of these salient racial events, we consider a staggered difference-in-difference design. We limit the sample to the [-12, +12] window, where period 0 is the month of the event. We then estimate Equation (1) after interacting *Confederate* with *Post*, an indicator that is equal to one for the post-event window (i.e., months 1 through 12) and zero for the pre-event window. Specification 1 of Table 6 reports the results. We find the coefficient on *Confederate* × *Post* is -4.92%, indicating that the discount *Confederate* properties is 4.92% larger in the year following the salient racial events relative to the year prior to the event. To better understand the dynamics following the major events, in Specification 2 we decompose *Confederate* × *Post* into *Confederate* × *PostQ1*, *Confederate* × *PostQ2*, *Confederate* × *PostQ3*, and *Confederate* ×

<sup>18</sup> https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/07/03/us/george-floyd-protests-crowd-size.html

PostQ4, where Confederate  $\times$  PostQ1 is an indicator equal to one if the transaction occurred in the quarter (i.e., three-months) following the event, and PostQ2 -PostQ4 are defined analogously. Specification 2 reports the results. We find that the discount increases substantially in the quarter following the event (-8.13%). However, the estimates for quarters two through four are insignificant, suggesting that the impact of increased attention is relatively short lived. <sup>19</sup> Specification 3 augments Specification 2 by including Confederate  $\times$  PreQ1, where PreQ1 is an indicator equal to one in the three months before the post-event window. We find that the coefficient on Confederate  $\times$  PreQ1 is statistically insignificant which is inconsistent with pretrends driving the increased discount in the period immediately following the event.

Finally, in Specification 4 we explore whether the sizeable discount in the quarter following the attention-grabbing events is concentrated around a particular event. Since the effects are concentrated in the quarter after the event, we shrink the event window to [-12,3] and then decompose Confederate × *PostQ1* into three separate indicators for each event (*Charleston, Charlottesville*, and *BLM Protests*). The estimated discounts following all three events are sizeable, ranging from 7% (*BLM Protests*) to 11% (*Charlottesville*), although none of the individual estimates are significantly different from zero. The patterns are consistent with all three events have similar effects on homeowner demand for Confederate properties.

### 4.6 Confederate Streets and other Housing Market Outcomes

The price discounts documented for Confederate properties are consistent with some homeowners being averse to purchasing houses on Confederate streets. A related prediction is that

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> We find no evidence of a general time trend in the Confederate discount during the sample period. In particular, Figure IA.1 plots the rolling five-year estimates on *Confederate* and indicates no clear time-series pattern, although the effect is generally strongest during the financial crisis period when housing markets were very illiquid. The absence of a clear trend is broadly consistent with racial events only temporarily magnifying the Confederate discount.

Confederate houses, due to the weaker aggregate demand, may be more likely to have their listing withdrawn, may take a longer time to be sold, or may be more likely to sell at large discounts relative to their initial listing price. To test these predictions, we supplement the ATTOM transaction data with hand-collected information on listing dates, listing prices, and house withdrawals from Zillow. We search the Zillow website using the property addresses from ATTOM. We verify whether the searched outcome in Zillow is indeed the same property as the one reported in ATTOM by comparing their house characteristics. The listing and price history are very scarce prior to 2008, so we focus on the period from 2009 to 2020. Even for the later sample period, Zillow only provides information on listing dates and listing prices for a subset of properties. We are able to collect listing information for 1,934 of the 4,053 Confederate properties. Our final sample includes 2,619 listings of Confederate properties and 17,744 non-Confederate properties that were listed in the same census tract and quarter.

We construct three variables from the Zillow data: Withdrawn is an indicator equal to one if the house listing is subsequently withdrawn without selling; Slow Sale is an indicator equal to one if the difference between the selling date (or withdrawal date) and the listing date is in the top quintile; and Large Discount is an indicator equal to one if log (listing price /final price) is in the top quintile of the distribution, where final prices is defined as either the sales prices or the listing price on the date the property is withdrawn. We also continue to include the other house attribute data reported in ATTOM.

Table IA.1 of the Internet Appendix provides summary statistics (similar to Table 1) for the merged Zillow-ATTOM sample. We find that the median *End Price* and *Listing Price* are \$199,900 and \$189,900, which is similar to the median sale prices reported for the full sample in Table 1 (\$180,000). The average value of *Withdrawn* is 8.42%. Although the average values of

Slow Sale and Large Discount are approximately 20% by construction, the top quintile of Slow Sale corresponds to properties that do not sell within (roughly) six months of the listing date, while the top quintile of Discount corresponds to discounts of roughly 10% or larger.

To explore whether Confederate properties are more likely to experience bad market outcomes, we estimate the following regression:

$$Y_{it} = \alpha + \beta Confederate_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \varepsilon_{it}, \qquad (2)$$

where Y is either equal to Withdrawn, Slow Sale, or Large Discount. Confederate and X are defined as in Equation (1), and FE denotes census tract  $\times$  listing quarter fixed effects.<sup>20</sup>

Specifications 1-3 report the results for *Withdrawn, Slow Sale,* and *Large Discount,* respectively. We find the Confederate properties are 1.11 percentage points more likely to be withdrawn, 1.72 percentage points more likely to have a slow sale, and 2.01 percentage points more likely to sell at a large discount. Relative to the sample means of each variable, these estimates reflect percentage increases of 13.2%, 8.6%, and 10.1%, respectively, although the estimate for *Withdrawn* is not reliably different from zero. To explore whether the documented effects are distinct from each other, we repeat the analysis for each outcome variable after controlling for the other two outcome variables (e.g., when *Withdrawn* is the outcome variable, we include *Slow Sale* and *Large Discount* as controls). The results, reported in Specifications 4-6, are qualitatively similar. Collectively, the findings from Table 7 provide further support for the view that *Confederate* properties suffer from lower aggregate demand.

### 5. Confederate Memorial Name Changes and House Prices

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Due to the more limited sample of properties with listing data (roughly half the size of the sale sample), we do not include census tract × listing quarter × age quintile fixed effects. As a middle ground, in Table IA.2 we repeat the analysis using census tract × listing quarter fixed effects and census tract × age quintile fixed effects and find qualitatively similar results.

Changing perceptions of Confederate memorials have led to a number of name changes in recent years. In this section, we examine the impact of Confederate school name changes on house prices. We focus on school name changes rather than street name changes because street name changes are relatively rare to date and school name changes potentially affect a much larger pool of potential homebuyers.<sup>21</sup>

The Southern Poverty Law Center maintains a list of Confederate memorials throughout the United States and also tracks removals and name changes. From the SPLC dataset, we gather information on elementary, middle, and high schools whose names were related to the Confederacy (as defined in our street analysis) and subsequently changed names during our 2000 to 2020 sample period. We initially identify 42 name change schools in 38 distinct zip codes.<sup>22</sup>

We then extract from ATTOM the addresses of single-family houses that are located in one of the 38 zip codes. We further collect school district information, historical house sales prices, and house attributes of these properties from *Zillow*. <sup>23</sup> Zillow does not provide price information for properties in four of the zip codes, all of which are located in Mississippi which is a state without mandatory transaction information. We also exclude properties located in zip codes whose school districts are unidentified according to Zillow. Lastly, we drop one zip code with no property price information available prior to change period. We focus on the three-year window surrounding the school name change year, and zip code-quarters with property sales in both name-change and no-name-change school districts.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> For school name change, there are 11,298 (10,631) transactions of changers (non-changers) during the three-year window of the school name change year, when we condition on zip code-quarters with property sales in both name-change and no-name-change school districts. For *street name* change, there are 150 (1,025) transactions of changers (non-changers) during the three-year window of street name changer year, located in 14 streets, based on the same conditions applied for school name change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> We exclude three schools that were closed instead of changing their name, since changes in educational opportunities may have confounding effects on home values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The ATTOM dataset does not contain information on school assignments, and we also rely on Zillow for pricing data as well since the ATTOM sample ends in 2020 (when many of the name changes took place).

The final sample includes 21,929 transactions that are located in 23 zip codes: 5 school name changes in 2016, 4 in 2017, 4 in 2018, 1 in 2019, and 9 in 2020. Roughly half (51.5%) of the transactions are for houses that experienced a school name change, and 27% of transactions occur after the name change. This fraction of observations in the "post" period is less than 50% because many name changes occurred in 2020, and thus the post sample is truncated for these observations.

To examine the impact of school name changes on home prices, we estimate a staggered difference-in-differences (DID) regression in which we compare transactions for houses in name-change school districts with transactions in the no-change districts within same location-quarter, before and after the school name change occurs. Specifically, we estimate the following regression:

$$\log(Price)_{it} = \beta_1 NameChg_i + \beta_2 NameChg_i \times Post_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \epsilon_{it}, \tag{3}$$

where  $NameChg_i$  equals one if property i is located in a school district that changed its name and  $Post_{it}$  equals one if property i is sold after the school's name change year. For properties in nochange school districts,  $Post_{it}$  is assigned based on timing of the name change in the same zip code. X includes controls for the specific number of bedrooms and bathrooms (up to five), and the natural log of House Size and Age. <sup>24</sup>

Ideally, we would include census tract × quarter fixed effect as with our earlier analysis. However, school districts rarely cross census tract boundaries, and including these precise fixed effects reduces the sample of relevant transactions by over 80%. <sup>25</sup> Therefore, we relax this condition by including zip code × quarter fixed effect, along with either census-tract or census-block fixed effects. Our identification assumption is that, in the absence of school name change,

<sup>25</sup> Including tract × quarter fixed effects instead of zipcode × quarter fixed effects yields qualitatively similar but statistically insignificant results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> The controls are identical to the baseline analysis except that we no longer include the natural log of *Lot Size* since this variable is generally not available from Zillow.

properties located in changer and non-changer school districts would have experienced similar price changes. We do, however, acknowledge that the decision to change a school name is endogenous. For example, school name changes may be more likely to occur in more liberal or highly educated areas, in which case the estimates we observe for school names changes may not generalize to other areas<sup>26</sup>. Nevertheless, a positive significant coefficient on  $\beta_2$  would suggest that, at least in certain areas, aversion to Confederate memorials are large enough to significantly impact real estate prices.

Specifications 1 and 2 of Table 8 report the results from models that include either tract fixed effects or block fixed effects (in addition to the controls and zip × quarter fixed effects). We find that the estimate on  $NameChg_i \times Post_{it}$  is positive and significant in both specifications. For example, the estimate in Specification 2 implies that houses in a school district appreciated by 4.29% when the school removes its Confederate name.

To further explore the time-series dynamics surrounding school name changes, we reestimate equation (3) after dropping  $NameChg_i \times Post_{it}$  and instead include  $NameChg_i \times Year(-1)$ ,  $NameChg_i \times Year(+1)$ , and  $NameChg_i \times Year(>+1)$ , where Year(-1), Year(+1), and Year(>+1) denote indicators equal to one if the transaction occurred in the year prior to the name change, the year after the name change, or more than one-year after the name change, respectively. The results of this analysis are reported in Specifications 3 and 4 of Table 8. We find that the coefficient on  $NameChg_i \times Year(-1)$  is economically small and statistically

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> From EducationWeek, we collect the list of schools whose names are related to Confederacy, but did not change its name prior to year 2022 (<a href="https://www.edweek.org/leadership/data-the-schools-named-after-confederate-figures/2020/06">https://www.edweek.org/leadership/data-the-schools-named-after-confederate-figures/2020/06</a>). We compare the county-level demographics of these schools to those of name-change schools used in our analysis. On average, we find that the fraction of college-educated (Democrat-voting) residents in name-change schools' counties are 18.5% (20.8%) higher compared to those in no-name-change counties; the mean-difference tests are statistically significant at 1% (10%) level. On the other hand, the two groups have similar Black populations and do not statistically differ.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> We group years +2 and +3 together because, due to the large number of name changes occurring in 2020, there are relatively few observations in each category.

insignificant which suggests that our finding are unlikely to be attributable to pre-trends. The estimates on  $NameChg_i \times Year$  (+1) is positive and marginally significant (p <0.10) consistent with name changes having an immediate impact on prices, and the estimate on  $NameChg_i \times Year$  (> +1) is even larger in magnitude which suggests that the immediate price reaction does not reverse over the subsequent two years. In sum, the findings from Table 8 suggest that homes that are zoned to attend Confederate schools experience a significant price appreciation when the Confederate name is removed.

Taken together, the evidence that the negative Confederate street effect is stronger in areas where residents are more likely to view the Confederacy negatively and greater following events that emphasize the racist associations of Confederate symbols, along with the positive effects associated with Confederate school name changes, suggests that aversion to Confederate memorials can be large enough to impact home values.

### 6. Confederate Memorial Streets and House Preferences – Experimental Evidence

Although our analysis includes controls for a number of house features, concerns may remain that unobservable characteristics could be driving the results. In this section, we consider an experimental setting that allows us to examine potential homebuyers' choices in an environment where houses are truly identical except for street name. An additional advantage of the experimental design is that we can directly measure decision makers' views on Confederate memorials and examine whether these views influence house choices.

To improve the transparency and consistency of our experimental evidence, we preregistered the experiment with the Open Science Framework. The pre-registration document, which pre-specifies the hypothesis, the design, the sample size, and the proposed statistical analysis is available here: <a href="https://osf.io/8jubg/">https://osf.io/8jubg/</a>. We also summarize the experimental design in the next section.

# 6.1 Experiment Overview

The experiment is designed to place potential homebuyers in a situation where they are choosing between two similar houses. Specifically, each respondent was asked to imagine that they are moving to a new town and are looking for a home. They were presented with 10 pairwise comparisons of houses and informed that each of the hypothetical houses is located in the same neighborhood, was built around the same time, and is very similar in size (same number of bedrooms and bathrooms). For each pair of houses that they were presented, they were expected to choose where they would prefer to live. Respondents were obtaining using Prolific, and we stipulated that they be US citizens, residing in the US, between the ages of 25 and 70, and with self-reported income of greater than \$30,000.

Respondents were presented with three photos for each house (front, kitchen, and bathroom), along with the property street name. The overall experiment consisted of five unique houses and five unique street names (including one Confederate memorial name: *Dixie St.*). We chose the five sets of house pictures with the goal that they would be viewed as roughly similar in desirability.<sup>29</sup> The experiment design was comprised of twenty blocks of 10 pairwise comparisons (200 unique pairwise comparisons in total) so that each combination of name and house is considered in both left and right positions. Each participant was randomly assigned to one of the twenty blocks and was asked to choose between 10 pairwise comparisons (houses-name matches

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> The preregistration is hosted by OSF (<u>https://osf.io/</u>). However, the document posted to OSF includes information on the authors' names. For the purposes of the review process, an anonymous version of the preregistration can be found here https://www.dropbox.com/s/q72im9j5arhkoh3/Confed-SurveyPrereg-Blind.pdf?dl=0.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Photos were chosen from online searches for 3 bedroom, 2 bath houses located in Southern states and originally built in the late 1980s to early 1990s (matching the age of the average Confederate Street home). Control street names where chosen from the list of control street names from the archival evidence.

were internally consistent for each participant). In order to reduce the risk of response bias, respondents were not informed about the nature of the study, and only four of the ten comparisons include a Confederate Street. An example of the survey is presented in the Experimental Appendix at the end of Internet Appendix.

Motivated by our analysis in Section 4 that studies saliency shocks, we also included a priming component in the experiment design. Before beginning the survey, participants were randomly assigned to one of two conditions: race issue priming vs. not primed. In particular, half of respondents were asked to read and summarize an article that underscores the racial underpinnings of Confederate symbols, and the other half were asked to read and summarize a control article without racial or Confederate references.

After completing the house choice portion of the survey, participants were asked to enter demographic information including their political preferences, their level of education, and their ethnicity, and their current state of residence. We next directly ask participants "How would you feel about living on a street that honors the Confederacy?" using a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 denotes *Extremely Negative*, 3 is *Neutral*, and 5 is *Extremely Positive*. This question is asked after the house comparisons, without the opportunity to go back, to ensure it does not influence their answers. We collected survey data for 1000 participants, resulting in 10,000 house choices with 4,000 involving a Confederate street.

Respondents were not tasked with directly choosing preferred address names, and we anticipate that for most respondents the photos are likely to be the first order determinant for house

our report, so this specific evidence should be interpreted as "exploratory" or "non-preregistered."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> We gathered information on the current state of residence, age, and gender to help provide diagnostic evidence on the representativeness of the sample. Based on comments we received when presenting our findings, we now also treat residing in a non-Confederate state, which we consider in our archival analysis, as a mediating variable in our experimental setting. However, we did not preregister this particular mediating variable (Non-Confederate State) in

choice. However, we conjecture that concerns about Confederate symbols on average, and in particular by certain demographic groups, will have an effect on house choice. Our primary hypothesis is that participants will be less likely to choose houses that are located on streets that honor the Confederacy (*H1*). We also expect that that the relation will be stronger for participants that express greater direct negative reactions to Confederate memorials (*H2*). Indirectly, we expect the relation to be stronger for respondents with demographic traits that are typically associated with more negative views of the Confederacy including (e.g., Black participants, participants with higher education levels, participants who identify as Democrats, and those living outside the South). Our final prediction is that the negative reaction to a Confederate memorial street name will be stronger for participants that have been primed to consider the racial underpinnings of Confederate symbols (*H3*). Hypotheses *H1*, *H2*, and *H3* are designed to mirror the archival results reported in Section 4.1 (baseline results), Section 4.3 (demographic results), and Section 4.5 (shocks to saliency), respectively.

#### 6.2 Experimental Summary Statistics

Panel A of Table 9 reports summary statistics on the demographics of the survey users. We find that more than 64% of users report having a negative view of Confederate Streets (i.e., a score of 1 or 2), compared to less than 4% of users who report a positive view (i.e., a score of 4 and 5). Roughly 54% of the survey respondents identify as Democrats, 67% are college educated, 68% live in a non-Confederate state, while just 6.8% identify as Black.<sup>31</sup> We also report the means of each variable for different subsamples. For example, column 2 reports the means of all the demographic variables for the subsample of users who view Confederate memorials negatively. A

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> The sample of respondents was 54% female (45% male, 1% non-binary/prefer not to say), and 70% of the respondents were between 25 and 45 years old.

comparison of columns 1 and 2 indicates that aversion to confederate memorials is, as expected, stronger among Democrats, college educated respondents, Black respondents, respondents living in a non-Confederate state, and respondents who received the priming article.

Panel B reports summary statistics on the frequency with which respondents selected certain houses, which we label  $House\ 1-House\ 5$ , where house numbers were defined based on their ex-post popularity. We observe some variation, with the most popular house (i.e., House 1) being selected 23.1% of the time and the least popular house (House 5) being selected 16.9% of the time. Importantly, the street names are randomly assigned to each house with equal likelihood, so differences in the quality of the house should not bias the estimates on house preferences.

Panel C reports summary statistics on the frequency with which respondents selected specific street name. All users saw each street name in four out of the 10 pictures, so the average street should be selected 20% of the time. We find that Dixie Street is only selected 18.9% or the time, or 5.5% less than expected which is consistent with *H1*. In contrast, the other four control street names are selected between 20.0% and 20.7%. Consistent with *H2* and *H3*, the fraction of respondents selecting Dixie Street is lower among respondents who view Confederate memorials negatively (18.2%) and among respondents who received the priming article (18.7%).

# 6.3 Experimental Regression Results

To more formally test H1, we estimate the following linear probability model:

House #1 = 
$$\beta_1 Dixie Dif + House #FE_1 + House #FE_2 + \varepsilon_{it}$$
, (4)

where *House* #1, is an indicator equal to one if the participant reports preferring the first house (i.e., the house on the left of the screen) to the second house (i.e., the house on the right of the screen), *Dixie Dif* equals one if the first house (i.e., the house on the left) is on Dixie Street, negative one if the  $2^{nd}$  house (i.e., the house on the right) is on Dixie Street, and zero if neither

house is on Dixie Street,  $House \#FE_1$  are a set of indicator dummies to indicate which house was the first (left) house seen by participants, and  $House \#FE_2$  is defined analogously. Standard errors are clustered by participant.

Specification 1 of Table 10 report the results. The estimate on *Dixie Dif* is -2.65%, indicating that participants are 2.65 percentage points (or roughly 5.3%) less likely to select a house if it is located on *Dixie Street*. The finding supports our prediction that participants will, on average, be less likely to choose houses that are located on streets that honor the Confederacy.

To test *H2* and *H3*, we estimate the following linear probability model:

House #1 =  $\beta_1 Dixie Dif \times High Aversion + \beta_2 Dixie Dif \times Low Aversion$  (5) +  $\beta_3 High Aversion + \#House \#FE_1 + House \#FE_2 + \varepsilon_{it}$ . In testing H2, we consider one direct proxy for High Aversion (Negative Confederate Sentiment) and four indirect proxies (Democratic, College Educated, Black, and Non-Confederate State). In testing H3, our measure of High Aversion is whether the respondent was asked to read the priming article (Priming Article). For each variable, the Low Aversion group includes all participants not classified as High Aversion.

Specification 2 of Table 10 reports the results where  $High\ Aversion$  is defined as  $Negative\ Confederate\ Sentiment$ . The estimates indicate that users who view Confederate memorials more negatively are 4.67 percentage points (roughly 9.3%) less likely to select houses on Dixie Street. This estimate is significantly different from zero at a 1% level and it also significantly different from the estimate on the  $Low\ Aversion$  group (1.01 percentage points). Specifications 3-6 report the results for the indirect proxies for viewing Confederate memorials negatively. The evidence for the indirect proxies is generally consistent with our predictions. The one exception is for Black respondents, although this test has relatively low power since the sample of Black respondents is small (N = 68). Finally, in Specification 7 we find that respondents who received the priming

article are less likely to select Dixie Street than those who did not (-3.03% versus -2.26%), however the two estimates are not reliably different from each other.

Overall, the experimental evidence in this section, and the archival evidence in Section 4 are highly consistent. In particular, the evidence from both approaches suggests that, on average, homebuyers are averse to purchasing homes on Confederate memorial streets, particularly among the subset of users who are more likely to view Confederate memorials negatively.

# 7. Residential Sorting on Confederate Properties

As discussed in Section 4.3, prospective house buyers' aversion to properties on Confederate streets is likely concentrated among demographic groups that view Confederate memorials more negatively. While the cross-sectional patterns in Section 4.3 and the survey evidence in Section 6 are broadly consistent with this prediction, in this Section we analyze more granular homeowner demographic data to more directly examine whether Black, Democrat, and college-educated individuals are less likely to purchase properties on Confederate streets.

We collect voter registration data for all residents in Florida from L2 data.<sup>32</sup> The data includes information on house addresses, ethnicity, political affiliation, education level, homeowner age, income, and the estimated house value (additional details described in Appendix A).<sup>33</sup> As in the previous analysis, our identification strategy relies on comparing Confederate properties to otherwise similar non-Confederate properties. Since this analysis no longer requires a transaction to have occurred, we have significantly greater flexibility in identifying matched control properties. For example, the median Confederate transaction has 12 non-Confederate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> L2 provides voter data separately by state, and we obtain data for Florida as it contains the largest number of Confederate properties in our sample.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Information on race (college education) are missing for roughly 5% (22%) of the sample. To include as many Confederate street properties as possible, we set missing values of race (or college education) to zero and include a corresponding missing race (missing college) indicator (see, e.g., Himmelberg, Hubbard, and Palia, 1999).

properties that sell in the same quarter, whereas there are roughly 1,000 control properties that did not sell. As a result, in this analysis we use more granular fixed effects. Specifically, we benchmark Confederate properties to other properties in the same census block group (roughly one-quarter the size of a census tract).<sup>34</sup>

Although information on house characteristics such as building age is not available in the L2 sample, the data does offer an estimate of house value. Thus, within a census-block-group, we match the Confederate house to a control house whose estimated house value is in the same percentile as the Confederate house. The resulting sample includes 1,786 Confederate properties and 12,563 matched control properties that are in the same census block group and same house value percentile as a Confederate property. Summary statistics for the L2 sample are provided in Table IA.3 of the Internet Appendix.

To test whether certain groups are less likely to own Confederate properties, we estimate the following cross-sectional regression:

$$Confederate_i = \alpha + \beta_1 Var_i + FE + \varepsilon_i. \tag{6}$$

The dependent variable, *Confederate*, is an indicator that is equal to one if the house is on a Confederate street and zero otherwise. *Var* is equal to either: *Race (Black)* an indicator one if all the owners of the house identify as Black, *Registered Democrat* an indicator equal to one if the house owners are registered Democrats, and *Education (Some College)* an indicator equal to one if all the house owners have at least some college education. FE denote census block group × house value percentile fixed effects. We continue to cluster standard errors at the census tract level.

Specification 1 of Table 11 reports the results when the primary independent variable is *Race* (*Black*). We find that Black residents are 3.61 percentage points less likely to own a property

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> We also repeat the analysis using census tract rather than block groups and find qualitatively similar results (Table IA.4).

on a Confederate street relative to other houses of similar value in the same census block group, which reflects a roughly 29% decline relative to the mean value of *Confederate* (12.45%). In Specifications 2 and 3, we consider *Registered Democrat* and *Education (Some College)* as the primary independent variables. The estimates indicate that both Democrats and college educated individuals are significantly less likely to own houses on Confederate streets. In Specification 4 we include the three demographic indicator variables simultaneously. The estimates on all three variables are all negative (and at least marginally significant), with values ranging from -2.12% to -2.46%. Finally, Specification 5 adds the natural log of household income (*Income*), the natural log of the homeowner's age (*Age*), and the natural log of the estimated house value (*House Value*) as controls. All three controls are insignificant, and they have little impact on the variables of interest. The demographic homeownership evidence is consistent with residential sorting, with Black, Democratic, and college educated homeowners being relatively more averse to living in houses on streets that honor the Confederacy.

#### 8. Conclusion

This paper studies the housing market implications for homes located on streets that honor the Confederacy. We find that properties located on Confederate streets sell at a 2.9% discount relative to otherwise similar nearby properties. Confederate listings are also more likely to stay on the market for an extended period of time, and more likely to sell at a large discount relative to the listing price.

Several auxiliary tests suggest that Confederate houses' negative market outcomes are a result of reduced aggregate demand from certain homebuyers who wish not to glorify a part of America's history that is associated with White supremacy. First, the discount for Confederate properties is concentrated in areas where a high population of residents view Confederate

memorials as symbols of racism, including outside of the South and in areas with a larger Black population and more liberal voters. Second, the Confederate discount is concentrated in less liquid markets where the impact of heterogeneous preferences is likely to be amplified. Third, the discounts are larger after salient events that intensify the negative connotations associated with Confederate memorials. Fourth, the removal of Confederate school names is associated with significant house price increases. Fifth, the aversion to Confederate streets continues to hold in an experimental setting, with the effects being particularly strong among survey participants who are more likely to view Confederate memorials negatively. Sixth, and lastly, we confirm that Confederate houses are less likely to be purchased by demographic groups that are more likely to view Confederate memorials as symbols of racism.

The findings echo recent literature on the importance of social norms and preferences in determining asset values. Our evidence also contributes to the public debate regarding the appropriateness of Confederate memorials. In particular, our analysis offers a market-based approach for uncovering the marginal homebuyer's preferences for Confederate memorials. Our findings inform considerations to rename Confederate streets. Although to date only a handful of Confederate streets have been renamed, existing discussions often emphasize the costs involved.<sup>35</sup> Our findings highlight potential benefits to homeowners by expanding the set of potential homebuyers.

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<sup>35</sup> See, for example, and <a href="https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/how-much-would-it-cost-to-rename-dixie-highway/2195214/">https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/how-much-would-it-cost-to-rename-dixie-highway/2195214/</a>

## **Appendix A: Variable Definitions**

### A.1 House Attributes (Tables 1-7)

- Confederate An indicator variable equal to 1 if the house is located on a street that honors the Confederacy. We consider variants of the names "Robert E. Lee," "Jefferson Davis," "Confederate," "Stonewall Jackson," or "Dixie." [Source: ATTOM Data].
- *Control House* any house that sold in the same census tract and same calendar quarter as a *Confederate* house. [Source: ATTOM Data].
- House Size (sq. ft.) House building area of the property in square feet. [Source: ATTOM Data].
- # Bedrooms (Bathrooms) Number of bedrooms (bathrooms) in the property<sup>36</sup>. [Source: ATTOM Data].
  - o Bed2 (Bath2) an indicator equal to one if the house has 2 bedrooms (2 bathrooms) and zero otherwise. Other bed (bath) indicators are defined analogously.
- Age (years) —the difference between house sale date and house built date, based on house built year assuming that the house was built on the first date of the year divided by 365. [Source: ATTOM Data].
- Lot Size (sq. ft.) Lot size of the property in square feet. [Source: ATTOM Data].

## A.2 Regional and Demographic Variables (Table 4)

- *Non-Confederate States* an indicator equal to one if the house is located in a state that was not one of the original 11 Confederate states (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.).
- *Non-Top 5 Statue* an indicator equal to one if the house is located in a state that is not in the top 5 in the total number of Confederate statues (Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, Texas, and Alabama). [Source: <a href="https://www.splcenter.org/20190201/whose-heritage-public-symbols-confederacy">https://www.splcenter.org/20190201/whose-heritage-public-symbols-confederacy</a>].
- *High Black Population* an indicator equal to one if the house is located in a country with above median Black population. Median breakpoints are computed based on all transactions that occurred during the calendar quarter. [Source: US Census Bureau].
- *High Democrat* An indicator equal to one if the house is located in a county where the percentage of votes for Democratic party presidential candidate in the county is above the median. Median breakpoints are computed based on all transactions that occurred during the calendar quarter. [Source: MIT Election Data and Science Lab].
- *High College* An indicator equal to one if the house is located in a country with above median fraction of 4-year college graduates. Median breakpoints are computed based on all transactions that occurred during the calendar quarter. [Source: US Census Bureau].

 $<sup>^{36}</sup>$  For 7% (0.2%) of observation whose number of bedroom (bathroom) is unavailable, we infer its value using total number of rooms and number of bathroom (bedroom) as follows: Inferred # bedroom = Total # room - # bathroom - 1; Inferred # bathroom = Total # room - # bedroom - 1

- Composite the sum of non-Top 5 Statue + High Black Population + High Democrat + High College.
  - Low Composite (High Composite) an indicator equal to one if the Composite score is above (below) the median value of 2.
  - o *Mid Composite* an indicator equal to one if the *Composite* score is equal to the median value of 2.

### A.3 Housing Market Liquidity Variables (Tables 5)

- Liquid (Very Liquid) an indicator equal to one if the price growth of houses in the county in the prior quarter is in the top 20% (top 5%) of the distribution. [Source: Zillow House Value Index].
- Less Liquid an indicator equal to one if the price growth of houses in the county in the prior quarter is in the bottom 80% of the distribution. [Source: Zillow House Value Index].

### A.4 Zillow Listing Variables (Table 7)

- *Withdrawn* an indicator equal to one if the house listing is subsequently withdrawn without selling. [Source: Zillow].
  - A house is considered to be sold if the sale listing is removed after "sale pending" or "sold" indicator.
- *Slow Sale* an indicator equal to one if the difference between the selling date (or withdrawal date) and the listing date is in the top quintile. [Source: Zillow].
- Large Discount an indicator equal to one if log (listing price /final price) is in the top quintile of the distribution, where final prices is defined as either the sales prices or the listing price on the date the property is withdrawn. [Source: Zillow].
- Listing Price the asking price when the property is first listed. [Source: Zillow].

#### A.5 School Name Change Variables (Table 8)

- *Name Change* An indicator equal to one if the house is located in a school district that changes its name.
- Post An indicator equal to one if the transaction took place after the school name change
  - $\circ$  Year (+1) an indicator equal to one if the transaction occurred in the year after the name change
  - $\circ$  Year (> +1) –an indicator equal to one if the transaction occurred in the two or three years after the name change.
  - Year (-1) an indicator equal to one if the transaction occurred in the year prior to the name change.

### A.6 Experimental Data (Tables 9 and 10)

- Street Names We manipulate the street names that corresponds to a specific picture of a house. In particular, different participants see the exact same house with a different street name. This manipulation allows us to examine the impact of street names holding the house constant. In our study we consider four non-confederate street names: Kenwood, Gresham, Juniper, and Linden and one confederate street name: Dixie.
  - The main independent variable of interest is *Dixie Dif* which is equal to one if the first house (i.e., the house on the right) is on Dixie Street, negative one if the 2<sup>nd</sup> house (i.e., the house on the left) is on Dixie Street, and zero if neither house is on Dixie Street.
- *Primed* an indicator equal to one if the participant was randomly assigned to be in the primed group. Participants in the primed group begin the survey by reading an article that underscores the racist connotations of Confederate symbols (Confederate flag removals following the Charleston Church shooting). Participants in the non-primed group begin by reading an article of similar length on a subject unrelated to race (the harmful effects of social media on teens).
- House #1 an indicator equal to one if the participant reported preferring the first house (i.e., the house on the left of the screen) to the second house (i.e., the house on the right of the screen), and zero if the participant reported preferring the second house.
- *Negative Confederate Sentiment* an indicator equal to one if the participant reported that they would feel either "Extremely bad" or "somewhat bad" if they lived on a Confederate Street.
- *Positive Confederate Sentiment* an indicator equal to one if the participant reported that they would feel either "Extremely good" or "somewhat good" if they lived on a Confederate Street.
- Black Respondent An indicator equal to one if the respondent identifies as "Black / African American."
- *Democrat* An indicator equal to one if the respondent self-reported as usually voting "Democratic".
- *College Educated* an indicator equal to one if the participant's self-reported education level is a bachelor's degree or higher.
- *Non-Confederate State* an indicator equal to one if the participant resides in a state that was not one of the original 11 Confederate states (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.).
- House  $\#FE_1$  a set of indicator dummies to indicate which house was the first (left) house seen by participants. We include five different houses and thus four indicator variables (with the fifth house being the omitted group).
- House  $\#FE_2$  a set of indicator dummies to indicate which house was the second (right) house seen by participants. All other details are analogous to House  $\#FE_1$ .

#### A.6 L2 Homeowner Data (Table 11)

- Race (Black) an indicator equal to one if all the owners of the house identify as Black. [Source: L2].
- Registered Democrat an indicator equal to one if all the owners of the house are registered democrats. [Source: L2].
- *Education (Some College)* an indicator equal to one if all the owners of the house have some college education [Source: L2].
- *Income* the combined income of the owners of the house. [Source L2].
- Age the age of primary homeowner (in years). [Source L2].
- *House Value* the estimate house value. [Source L2]

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Figure 1. Confederate Street Locations.

This figure plots the distribution of the Confederate streets with a transaction in our sample. Sample streets are represented with filled in circles. Grayed states are those without mandatory disclosure of house transaction information. Disclosure in the cross-hatched states varies at the county level.

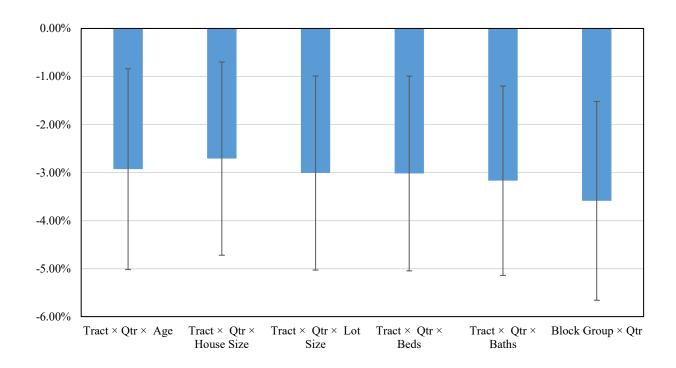


Figure 2. House Values and Confederate Street Names – Alternative Fixed Effects.

This table explores the sensitivity of the baseline findings to alternative fixed effect models. For reference, the first model reports the results from the baseline model that includes census tract × quarter × age quintile fixed effects (Specification 4 of Table 3). Models 2- 5 replace age quintile fixed effects with house size quintile fixed effects, lot size quintile fixed effects, fixed effects for the number of bedrooms, and fixed effects for the number of bathrooms. In Model 6, we include block group × quarter fixed effects. The coefficients on *Confederate* are reported as blue bars and their 95% confidence intervals as error bars. The confidence intervals are computed based on standard errors clustered at the census tract level.

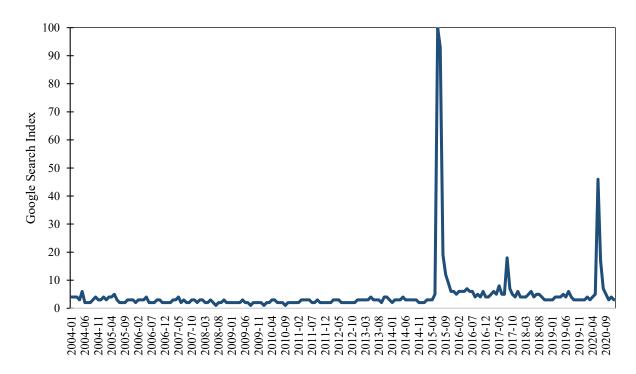


Figure 3. "Confederate Flag" Google Trend Search.

The figure plots the Google Search Index for "Confederate Flag." The month with highest search is benchmarked to 100.

**Table 1. Confederate House Properties: Descriptive Statistics** 

This table reports descriptive statistics for sample of Confederate and control house sales. We identify sales of houses that are located in Confederate memorial streets over the 2001-2020 sample period using data from ATTOM. We select corresponding control sales that occurred in the same calendar quarter within the same census tract. Panel A reports distinct number of transactions, houses, and regional districts in the sample for Confederate and control sales. Panel B reports descriptive statistics of house characteristics, and Panel C reports the correlations across the house characteristics, where the continuous house characteristics (*Price*, *House Size*, *Age*, and *Lot Size*) are analyzed after taking natural logs. Variable definitions are provided in Appendix A.

Panel A: Samp	Transactions	Houses	Streets	Block Groups	Tracks	Counties	States
C C 1 4				<b>.</b>			
Confederate	5,895	4,052	1,446	698	574	254	35
Controls	80,304	70,040	32,657	1,682	574	254	35
Panel B: Distri	bution of House Ch	aracteristics					
	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Skewness	p25	Median	p75
Confederate	86,199	0.07	0.25	3.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
Price	86,199	\$241,911	\$268,160	\$8	\$119,500	\$180,000	\$280,000
House Size	86,199	1767	847	4	1223	1570	2105
Bedrooms	86,199	3.1	0.8	0.7	3.0	3.0	3.0
Bathrooms	86,199	2.2	0.9	0.9	2.0	2.0	3.0
Age (years)	86,199	31.0	25.7	0.8	10.0	25.0	50.0
Lot Size	86,199	17,146	25,218	6	6,761	10,000	16,160
Panel C: Corre	elation Matrix						
	Confederate	Price	House Size	Bedrooms	Bathrooms	Age	Lot Size
Confederate	1.00	-0.06	-0.04	-0.04	-0.05	0.11	0.03
Price		1.00	0.60	0.37	0.57	-0.24	0.14
House Size			1.00	0.61	0.72	-0.33	0.34
Bedrooms				1.00	0.57	-0.23	0.21
Bathrooms					1.00	-0.38	0.15
Age						1.00	0.07
Lot Size							1.00

#### Table 2: Difference in House Characteristics of Confederate and Control Houses

This table compares the house attributes of Confederate houses and control houses from the same census tract that sold in the same calendar quarter. Column 1 reports the mean difference between the Confederate property and non-Confederate property prior to including any controls or fixed effects. Column 3 presents mean difference between Confederate and control transactions after controlling for other house attributes and benchmarking Confederate transactions to other transactions that occurred in the same census tract and calendar quarter. Specifically, for each house characteristics, we report the estimate of  $\beta$  from the following regression model:

$$Char_{it} = \beta \ Confederate_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \epsilon_{it},$$

where  $Char_{it}$  is house characteristics of house i in quarter t,  $Confederate_{it}$  is an indicator variable that takes the value of 1 if house i is located on a Confederate street, and 0 otherwise, X includes all the house characteristics ( $House\ Size$ ,  $Lot\ Size$ ,  $\#\ Bedrooms$ ,  $\#\ Bathrooms$ , Age) excluding the characteristic that is the dependent variable, and FE denotes census tract  $\times$  quarter fixed effects. Column 5 is similar to Column 3 except that it replaces Census Tract  $\times$  Quarter Fixed Effects with Census Tract  $\times$  Quarter  $\times$  Age Quintile Fixed Effects. Columns 2, 4, and 6 report the t-statistic testing whether the difference reported in the previous column is different from zero. The t-statistics are computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract level.

	No Co	ntrols	Tract × Qtr. FI	E & Controls	Tract × Qtr. × Age FE & Controls		
	Difference	<i>t</i> -stat	Difference	<i>t</i> -stat	Difference	t-stat	
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	
Log (House Size)	-7.21%	(-3.59)	-1.44%	(-1.87)	-0.45%	(-0.63)	
Log (Lot Size)	11.17%	(1.96)	4.42%	(1.67)	4.20%	(1.78)	
# Bedrooms	-0.116	(-3.75)	-0.012	(-0.62)	-0.026	(-1.27)	
# Bathrooms	-0.190	(-4.10)	-0.008	(-0.72)	-0.008	(-0.62)	
Log (Age)	56.32%	(4.83)	8.52%	(2.41)	1.50%	(1.47)	

**Table 3. House Values and Confederate Street Names** 

This table reports the pricing effect of houses located on Confederate memorial streets. Specifically, it reports estimate for the following regression specification:

$$\log (Price)_{it} = \beta \ Confederate_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \epsilon_{it},$$

where  $Price_{it}$  is sale price, and  $Confederate_{it}$  is an indicator variable that takes the value of 1 if the house is located on a Confederate street, and 0 otherwise,  $X_{it}$  is a vector of house attributes that includes indicators for the specific number of bedrooms and bathrooms, and the natural logs of Lot Size, House Size, and House House

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
Confederate	-4.70%	-3.97%	-4.21%	-2.93%
	(-2.22)	(-3.57)	(-3.84)	(-2.76)
Log (House Size)	84.09%	58.95%	59.30%	57.90%
,	(13.20)	(32.13)	(35.22)	(31.00)
Log (Age)	1.34%	-5.69%	-6.31%	-7.19%
0, 0,	(0.70)	(-5.85)	(-7.94)	(-8.34)
Log (Lot Size)	-4.99%	9.92%	10.32%	10.34%
	(-2.14)	(12.53)	(13.29)	(12.38)
Bed2	-6.27%	3.86%	1.52%	2.51%
	(-0.67)	(1.59)	(0.62)	(1.07)
Bed3	-16.63%	7.22%	4.44%	4.35%
	(-1.61)	(2.69)	(1.67)	(1.72)
Bed4	-17.16%	6.53%	3.71%	4.05%
	(-1.58)	(2.44)	(1.40)	(1.55)
Bed>=5	-18.13%	3.30%	0.65%	2.71%
	(-1.55)	(1.06)	(0.21)	(0.89)
Bath2	31.98%	11.67%	12.45%	8.18%
	(8.75)	(9.99)	(11.51)	(9.43)
Bath3	54.28%	20.83%	20.79%	14.10%
	(10.60)	(13.47)	(14.56)	(11.73)
Bath4	76.13%	31.90%	31.15%	22.94%
	(13.28)	(15.07)	(15.81)	(12.15)
Bath > = 5	111.28%	46.30%	44.62%	37.81%
	(12.46)	(15.48)	(15.50)	(12.55)
Fixed Effects	Quarter	Tract and Qtr.	Tract × Qtr.	Tract × Qtr. × Age
Observations	86,199	86,199	86,199	86,199
R-squared	42.57%	76.59%	81.52%	88.06%
FE Groups	80	80 & 497	4,683	21,848

#### Table 4. House Values and Confederate Street Names – The Role of Regional Demographics

This table reports Confederate discounts conditional on regional demographics. We repeat Specification 4 of Table 3 after partitioning *Confederate* into *Confederate Low* and *Confederate High* based on different regional demographics. The low demographic group is defined as: the 11 states that belonged to the Confederacy (Specification 1), the five states with the largest number of Confederate statues (Specification 2), counties with a smaller Black population (Specification 3), fewer democratic voters (Specification 4), or a smaller fraction of college educated individuals (Specification 5). *High Demographic* refers to regions with high demographic levels for each specification. Specification 6 considers a composite measure computed as the sum of the high demographic variables across Specifications 2 through 5 (i.e., *Non-Top5 Statues + High Black Population + High Democrat + High College*). *Low (High)* composite is an indicator equal to one if the composite score is less than (greater than) the median value of 2, and *Mid Composite* is an indicator equal to one if the composite score equals 2. Below the regression estimates, we also test whether the *High Demographic* and *Low Demographic* coefficients are significantly different from each other. Detailed variable definitions are provided in Appendix A. The *t*-statistics, computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract level, are reported in parentheses.

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]
Confederate-Low Demographic	-1.93%	0.64%	-1.98%	-0.93%	-2.68%	1.58%
	(-1.36)	(0.35)	(-1.48)	(-0.64)	(-1.80)	(0.87)
Confederate-Non-Confederate State	-4.18%					
	(-2.71)					
Confederate-Non-Top5 Statues		-4.33%				
		(-3.46)				
Confederate-High Black Population			-3.64%			
			(-2.48)			
Confederate-High Democrat				-4.61%		
				(-3.17)		
Confederate-High College					-3.18%	
					(-2.29)	
Confederate-Composite-Mid						-2.57%
						(-1.73)
Confederate-Composite-High						-5.52%
						(-3.30)
Confederate High - Confederate Low	-2.25%	-4.97%	-1.66%	-3.68%	-0.50%	-7.11%
	(-1.08)	(-2.24)	(-0.89)	(-1.83)	(-0.25)	(-2.88)
Controls and FE		$Tract \times Q$	Quarter × Age Fixed	FE and Controls as	in Table 3	
Observations	86,186	86,186	86,186	86,186	86,186	86,186
R-squared	88.05%	88.06%	88.05%	88.06%	88.05%	88.06%

Table 5. House Values and Confederate Street Names – The Role of Local Housing Market Conditions

This table reports Confederate discounts conditional on local housing market liquidity. Specifications 1-3 repeat Specification 4 of Table 3 after splitting the sample into *less liquid*, *liquid*, and *very liquid* housing markets. We define a property as *Less Liquid* if it located in a county that is in the bottom 80% of the distribution of price growth in the prior quarter, as reported by the Zillow House Value Index (ZVHI), *Liquid* denotes houses sold in the top 20% of the distribution, and *Very Liquid* refers to top 5% of housing markets. Specifications 4-6 augment Specifications 1-3 by including *Confederate* × *High Composite*, where *High Composite* is defined as in Table 4. Below the regression estimates, we also report the estimates on *Confederate* + *Confederate* × *High Composite*. Detailed variable definitions are provided in Appendix A. The *t*-statistics, computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract

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ievei.	are reno	ortea in	parentheses.

, , ,	Less Liquid (Bottom 80%)	Liquid (Top 20%)	Very Liquid (Top 5%)	Less Liquid (Bottom 80%)	Liquid (Top 20%)	Very Liquid (Top 5%)
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]
Confederate	-3.49%	0.12%	-0.30%	-0.67%	1.71%	-0.27%
	(-3.11)	(0.07)	(-0.09)	(-0.57)	(0.77)	(-0.07)
Confed × High Composite				-7.46%	-3.58%	-0.11%
				(-3.40)	(-1.11)	(-0.01)
Confed + Confed High Comp				-8.12%	-1.87%	-0.38%
				(-4.08)	(-0.74)	(-0.06)
Controls and Fixed Effects		Tract ×	Quarter × Age Fixed	FE and Controls as in	Table 3	
Observations	69,247	16,939	4,296	69,247	16,939	4,291
R-squared	87.76%	89.00%	87.93%	87.77%	89.00%	87.93%

#### Table 6. House Values and Confederate Street Names - Shocks to Saliency

This table reports the house pricing effects of Confederate memorial streets following salient events that increased awareness of racial underpinnings of the Confederate flag. We consider three events that correspond to large spikes in attention to the Confederate flag. The three events correspond with the Charleston church shooting (June of 2015), the Charlottesville "Unite the Right" rally (August 2017), and widespread Black Lives Matter protests (June of 2020). We limit the sample to the [-12, +12] window, where period 0 is the month of the event. In Specification 1, we repeat the estimate of Equation (1) after interacting *Confederate* with *Post*, an indicator equal to one for the post-event window (i.e., months 1 through 12), and zero for the pre-event window. Specification 2 partitions *Confederate* × *PostQ1*, confederate × *PostQ2*, Confederate × *PostQ3*, and Confederate × *PostQ4*, where *Confederate* × *PostQ1* is an indicator equal to one if the transaction occurred in the quarter (i.e., three-months) following the event, and *PostQ2-PostQ4* are defined analogously. Specification 3 augments Specification 2 by adding an interaction term for the quarter prior to the event (*Confederate* × *Pre Q1*), and Specification 4 decomposes Confederate × *PostQ1* into three separate indicators for each event (*Charleston, Charlottesville*, and *BLM Protests*). Detailed variable definitions are provided in Appendix A. The *t*-statistics, computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract level, are reported in parentheses.

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
Confederate	-0.49%	-0.50%	-1.15%	-0.55%
	(-0.29)	(-0.30)	(-0.66)	(-0.33)
Confederate × Post Event	-4.22%			
	(-1.92)			
Confederate $\times$ Post Q1		-8.13%	-7.45%	
		(-2.38)	(-2.16)	
Confederate × Post Q2		-2.67%	-2.03%	
		(-0.84)	(-0.63)	
Confederate × Post Q3		0.53%	1.17%	
		(0.11)	(0.24)	
Confederate × Post Q4		-3.58%	-2.39%	
		(-1.09)	(-0.86)	
Confederate × Pre Q1			2.64%	
			(0.85)	
Confederate $\times$ Post Q1 $\times$ Charleston				-8.22%
				(-1.37)
Confederate $\times$ Post Q1 $\times$ Charlottesville				-11.05%
				(-1.61)
Confederate $\times$ Post Q1 $\times$ BLM Protests				-7.02%
				(-1.34)
Controls and Fixed Effects	Tract × Qua	arter × Age Fixed	FE and Controls a	s in Table 3
Period	[-12,12]	[-12,12]	[-12,12]	[-12,3]
Observations	31,795	31,795	31,795	21,712
R-squared	87.43%	87.44%	87.44%	88.25%

**Table 7: Listing Outcomes for Confederate Street Names** 

This table reports the effects of Confederate street memorials on housing market outcomes using the following regression:

$$Y_{it} = \beta \ Confederate_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \epsilon_{it},$$

where Y is equal to Withdrawn, an indicator that is equal to one if the house listing is subsequently withdrawn without selling;  $Slow\ Sale$ , an indicator that is one if the difference between the selling date (or withdrawal date) and the listing date is in the top quintile; or  $Large\ Discount$ , an indicator that is one if  $log\ (listing\ price\ /final\ price)$  is in the top quintile of the distribution, where final prices is defined as either the sales prices or the listing price on the date the property is withdrawn.  $X_{it}$  includes the vector of house attributes in Table 3 plus the natural log of the initial listing price. FE denotes census tract  $\times$  quarter fixed effects. Detailed variable definitions are provided in Appendix A. The t-statistics, computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract level, are reported in parentheses.

parentneses.	Withdrawn	Slow Sale	Discount	Withdrawn	Slow Sale	Discount
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]
Confederate	1.11%	1.72%	2.01%	1.27%	1.23%	1.86%
	(1.61)	(2.19)	(2.39)	(1.84)	(1.68)	(2.34)
Log (House Size)	2.85%	8.47%	2.53%	2.88%	7.78%	1.30%
	(2.40)	(3.96)	(1.47)	(2.41)	(3.98)	(0.86)
Log (Age)	-0.10%	2.08%	5.72%	0.43%	0.86%	5.27%
	(-0.20)	(2.77)	(8.22)	(0.83)	(1.23)	(7.86)
Log (Lot Size)	0.41%	-0.82%	-0.21%	0.41%	-0.79%	0.04%
	(0.96)	(-1.06)	(-0.35)	(0.98)	(-1.04)	(0.06)
Bed2	4.47%	-1.26%	-3.70%	4.12%	-0.69%	-2.60%
	(2.23)	(-0.36)	(-0.90)	(2.06)	(-0.19)	(-0.61)
Bed3	2.15%	-3.10%	-5.99%	1.62%	-1.92%	-4.94%
	(1.04)	(-0.90)	(-1.48)	(0.80)	(-0.53)	(-1.20)
Bed4	2.08%	-3.45%	-5.27%	1.64%	-2.42%	-4.16%
	(0.96)	(-0.99)	(-1.25)	(0.77)	(-0.67)	(-0.98)
Bed5	1.69%	-4.33%	-3.03%	1.50%	-3.76%	-1.81%
	(0.72)	(-1.15)	(-0.65)	(0.66)	(-0.98)	(-0.39)
Bath2	-1.26%	-3.62%	-4.77%	-1.65%	-2.53%	-4.25%
	(-1.75)	(-3.99)	(-4.52)	(-2.29)	(-2.84)	(-4.12)
Bath3	-1.84%	-3.75%	-4.89%	-2.24%	-2.60%	-4.45%
	(-1.98)	(-2.83)	(-3.68)	(-2.42)	(-2.04)	(-3.54)
Bath4	-0.58%	-3.56%	-2.08%	-0.69%	-3.09%	-1.44%
	(-0.40)	(-2.01)	(-1.04)	(-0.48)	(-1.92)	(-0.79)
Bath5	-0.32%	5.33%	6.04%	0.15%	4.05%	4.87%
	(-0.16)	(1.60)	(1.83)	(0.08)	(1.30)	(1.63)
Log (List Price)	-0.20%	7.53%	5.79%	0.19%	6.30%	4.18%
	(-0.16)	(5.07)	(4.83)	(0.16)	(4.70)	(3.58)
Withdrawn					5.09%	-18.67%
					(3.76)	(-10.68)
Slow Sale				2.70%	, ,	20.80%
				(3.73)		(14.31)
Large Discount				-10.24%	21.53%	, ,
				(-12.52)	(16.10)	
Fixed Effects	Tract × Qtr.					
Observations	20,363	20,363	20,363	20,363	20,363	20,363
R-squared	21.11%	26.34%	26.42%	22.63%	29.64%	30.97%

#### **Table 8: House Values and Confederate School Name Changes**

This table reports the pricing effect of Confederate memorial school changes. Specifically, the table reports estimates for the following difference-in-difference regression specification:

$$log(Price)_{it} = \beta_1 NameChg_i + \beta_2 NameChg_i \times Post_{it} + \gamma X_{it} + FE + \epsilon_{it},$$

where  $NameChg_i$  equals one if the house i is located in a school district that changed its name from a Confederate name to a non-Confederate name, and  $Post_{it}$  equals one if house i is sold after the school's name change year. X includes controls for the specific number of bedrooms and bathrooms (up to five), and the natural log of HouseSize and Age, and FE denote zip code  $\times$  quarter fixed effects and either tract fixed effects or block fixed effects. In Specifications 3 and 4, we replace  $NameChange \times Post$  with  $NameChange \times Year(-1)$ ,  $NameChange \times Year(+1)$ , and  $NameChange \times Year(>+1)$ , where Year(-1), Year(+1), and Year(>+1) denote indicators equal to one if the transaction occurred in the year prior to the name change, the year after the name change, or more than one-year after the name change, respectively. We limit the sample to the [-3,3] window, where Year 0 (the year of the name change) is excluded from the analysis. The t-statistics, computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract level, are reported in parentheses.

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
Name Change	-1.44%	-2.74%	-1.39%	-2.71%
	(-0.64)	(-0.55)	(-0.59)	(-0.55)
Name Change × Post	4.88%	4.29%		
	(3.12)	(2.99)		
Name Change × Year (-1)			-0.37%	-0.51%
			(-0.22)	(-0.27)
Name Change $\times$ Year $(+1)$			3.31%	2.96%
			(1.91)	(1.77)
Name Change $\times$ Year (>+1)			6.16%	5.32%
			(3.38)	(3.31)
Control variables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Qtr. x Zip FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tract FE	Yes	No	Yes	No
Block FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Observations	21,929	21,929	21,929	21,929
R-squared	80.32%	86.37%	80.32%	86.37%

Table 9: House Choices and Confederate Street Names – Descriptive Statistics for the Experimental Sample

The table reports summary statistics for the experimental sample. Column 1 reports the full sample results across all 1000 participants. Columns 2-7 report the results for respondent subsets based on the primary variables of interest. Detailed variable definitions are presented in Appendix A. Panel A reports the fraction

of the sample in each category. Panels B and C report the relative frequency of each choice category, where 20% is the null.

	Full Sample	Neg. Confed. Sentiment	Democrats	College Educated	Black	Non-Confed. State	Priming Article
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
Panel A: Demographic Var	iables						
Observations	1,000	644	544	670	68	676	508
Neg. Confed. Sentiment	64.4%	100.0%	83.3%	66.4%	76.7%	67.6%	67.7%
Positive Confed Sentiment	3.6%	0.0%	1.1%	2.7%	8.8%	3.3%	3.3%
Democrat	54.4%	69.6%	100.0%	58.1%	57.4%	55.6%	53.9%
College Educated	67.0%	69.1%	71.5%	100.0%	63.2%	67.8%	65.6%
Black	6.8%	8.1%	7.2%	6.4%	100.0%	4.4%	6.7%
Non-Confederate State	67.6%	71.0%	69.1%	68.4%	44.1%	100.0%	66.4%
Priming Article	50.80%	53.42%	50.40%	49.70%	50.00%	49.90%	100.0%
Panel B: House Choice							
House #1	23.1%	23.2%	23.0%	23.6%	24.1%	22.8%	22.3%
House #2	21.6%	21.4%	21.8%	22.2%	23.4%	21.9%	22.0%
House #3	20.3%	20.4%	20.9%	20.2%	18.2%	20.4%	20.8%
House #4	18.1%	18.3%	18.4%	17.7%	19.4%	18.1%	17.4%
House #5	16.9%	16.6%	15.9%	16.3%	14.9%	16.8%	17.4%
Panel B: Street Choice							
Dixie	18.9%	18.2%	18.4%	18.7%	20.0%	18.4%	18.7%
Kenwood	20.2%	20.6%	21.1%	20.6%	21.9%	20.1%	20.0%
Gresham	20.0%	20.0%	19.7%	19.7%	21.2%	19.7%	20.3%
Juniper	20.7%	20.9%	20.9%	20.6%	18.2%	21.5%	20.3%
Linden	20.2%	20.4%	19.9%	20.4%	18.7%	20.3%	20.6%

#### Table 10: House Choices and Confederate Street Names - Experimental Evidence

The table presents estimates for variants of the following regression specification:

House  $#1 = \beta_1 Dixie Dif + House #FE_1 + House #FE_2 + \varepsilon_{it}$ 

where *House* #1, is an indicator equal to one if the participant reports preferring the first house (i.e., the house presented on the left) to the second house (i.e., the house presented on the right), *Dixie Dif* equals one if the first house is on Dixie Street, negative one if the second house is on Dixie Street, and zero if neither house is on Dixie Street, *House* #FE1 are a set of indicator dummies to indicate which house was the first (left) house seen by participants, and *House* #FE2 is defined analogously. Specifications 2-7 report results after replacing *Dixie Dif*. with *Dixie Dif*. High Aversion and Dixie Dif. Low Aversion where High Aversion is measures as either: Negative Confederate Sentiment (Neg Confed), Democrat, College-Educated, Black, Non-Confederate State, or Priming Article and Low Aversion includes all participants not classified as High Aversion. More detailed variable definitions are in Appendix A. The t-statistics, computed from standard errors clustered by participant, are reported in parentheses.

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]
Intercept	48.90%	48.90%	48.90%	48.91%	48.89%	48.89%	48.88%
	(28.94)	(29.87)	(29.87)	(29.85)	(29.83)	(29.86)	(29.85)
Dixie Dif.	-2.65%						
	(-2.51)						
Dixie Dif. × Neg. Confed		-4.67%					
		(-3.55)					
Dixie Dif. × Non-Neg. Confed		1.01%					
, c		(0.58)					
Dixie Dif. × Democrat			-4.00%				
· ·			(-2.81)				
Dixie Dif. × Non-Democrat			-1.09%				
J			(-0.69)				
Dixie Dif. × College				-3.37%			
, 3				(-2.67)			
Dixie Dif. × No College				-1.19%			
9				(-0.62)			
Dixie Dif. × Black				, ,	0.96%		
9					(0.25)		
Dixie Dif. × Non-Black					-2.91%		
Dutte Dij. Witon Buck					(-2.66)		
Dixie Dif. × Non-Confed. State					( )	-4.32%	
Dutte Dij. Witon Conjea. State						(-3.34)	
Dixie Dif. × Confed State						0.85%	
Dixie Dij. ^ Conjed State						(0.47)	
Dixie Dif. ×Priming Article						(0.17)	-3.03%
Dixie Dij. A riming Article							(-1.98)
Divis Dif × No Dvima Auticle							-2.26%
Dixie Dif. × No Prime Article							(-1.55)
Coefficient Difference		5 600/	2.010/	2 170/	2 970/	5 170/	
Coefficient Difference		-5.68%	-2.91%	-2.17%	3.87%	-5.17%	-0.77%
Ol	10.000	(-2.59)	(-1.35)	(-0.95)	(0.95)	(-2.33)	(-0.36)
Observations	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
House FE	Yes						
R-squared	2.21%	2.34%	2.25%	2.23%	2.23%	2.32%	2.22%

### **Table 11: Residential Sorting on Confederate Properties**

This table reports the effects of Confederate street memorials on housing demographics using the following regression:

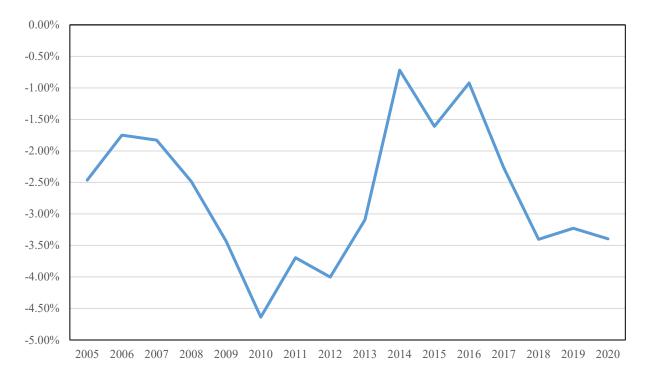
$$Confederate_i = \alpha + \beta_1 Var_i + FE + \varepsilon_i$$
.

Confederate is an indicator that is equal to one if the house is on a Confederate street and zero otherwise. Var is equal to one of three demographic variables: Race (Black), an indicator equal to one if all the owners of the house identify as Black; Registered Democrat, an indicator equal to one if all the owners of the house are registered democrats; or Education (Some College), an indicator equal to one if all the owners of the house have at least some college education. Specification 5 includes three additional control variables: the total household income (Income), the age of primary homeowner (Age), and the estimate house value (House Value). FE denote census block group × house value percentile fixed effects. Detailed variable definitions are provided in Appendix A. The t-statistics,

computed from standard errors clustered at the census tract level, are reported in parentheses.

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Race (Black)	-3.61%			-2.70%	-2.78%
	(-2.45)			(-1.85)	(-1.89)
Education (Some College)		-2.15%		-2.17%	-2.10%
		(-2.58)		(-2.62)	(-2.64)
Registered Democrat			-2.55%	-2.07%	-2.09%
			(-3.10)	(-2.63)	(-2.59)
Log (Income)					-0.82%
					(-1.21)
Log (Age)					-0.61%
					(-0.58)
Log (House Value)					2.89%
					(0.71)
Fixed Effects		Block Gro	up × House Val	ue Percentile	
Observations	14,349	14,349	14,349	14,349	14,349
R-squared	16.12%	16.12%	16.14%	16.24%	16.51%

#### **Internet Appendix**



**Figure IA1. House Values and Confederate Street Names over Time**This figure plots the estimates on *Confederate* (i.e., the Confederate discount) from Specification 4 of Table 3 over

5-year rolling windows.

**Table IA.1 Zillow -ATTOM Merged Dataset – Descriptive Statistics** 

This table reports descriptive statistics for the sample of Confederate and control house sales with housing information from ATTOM and listing information from Zillow. The sample begins in 2009 (the first year for which Zillow provides listing information) and ends in 2020. Panel A reports the distinct number of transactions, houses, and regional districts for the sample that examines the listing outcomes reported in Table 7 of the paper. Panel B reports descriptive statistics of house characteristics, and Panel C reports the correlations across the house characteristics. Variable definitions are provided in Appendix A.

Panel A: Sample	Size						
_	Transactions	Houses	Streets	Block Groups	Tracks	Counties	States
Confederate	2,619	2,334	1,934	439	366	188	30
Control Houses	17,744	16,315	15,445	910	366	188	30
Panel B: Distribu	tion of Housing C	haracteristics					
	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Skewness	p25	Median	p75
Confederate	20,363	0.13	0.33	2.22	0.00	0.00	0.00
End Price	20,363	\$268,550.00	\$369,519.00	\$8.18	\$118,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$295,000.00
Listing Price	20,363	\$291,095.80	\$423,708.00	\$9.37	\$127,000.00	\$199,999.00	\$310,000.00
Withdrawn	20,363	8.42%	27.78%	3.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Slow Sale	20,363	20.00%	39.99%	1.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Large Discount	20,363	19.58%	39.68%	1.53%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Age	20,363	35.59	24.35	0.72	14.00	30.00	56.00
Panel C: Correla	tion Matrix						
	Confederate	End Price	Listing Price	Withdrawn	Slow Sale	Large Discount	Age
Confederate	1.00	-0.05	-0.04	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.15
End Price		1.00	0.93	-0.03	-0.01	-0.24	-0.23
Listing Price			1.00	-0.04	0.02	-0.09	-0.22
Withdrawn				1.00	0.09	-0.06	0.00
Slow Sale					1.00	0.30	0.00
Large Discount						1.00	0.13
Age							1.00

Table IA.2: Listing Outcomes for Confederate Street Names – Alternative Fixed Effects
This table repeats the analysis in Table 7 of the paper after adding Census Tract ×Age Quintile fixed effects.

	Withdrawn	Slow Sale	Discount	Withdrawn	Slow Sale	Discount		
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]		
Confederate	0.88%	1.89%	1.90%	1.02%	1.44%	1.67%		
	(1.20)	(2.32)	(2.21)	(1.39)	(1.90)	(2.07)		
Log (House Size)	2.71%	8.78%	2.25%	2.71%	8.16%	0.93%		
	(2.16)	(4.29)	(1.31)	(2.13)	(4.30)	(0.59)		
Log (Age)	0.07%	-0.07%	5.28%	0.61%	-1.22%	5.31%		
	(0.09)	(-0.06)	(5.99)	(0.72)	(-1.14)	(6.81)		
Log (Lot Size)	0.43%	-0.90%	-0.69%	0.39%	-0.78%	-0.42%		
	(1.00)	(-1.14)	(-1.04)	(0.91)	(-0.98)	(-0.63)		
Bed2	4.68%	-1.55%	-4.33%	4.28%	-0.85%	-3.16%		
	(2.19)	(-0.39)	(-1.08)	(2.04)	(-0.20)	(-0.75)		
Bed3	2.43%	-3.66%	-6.50%	1.87%	-2.37%	-5.30%		
	(1.10)	(-0.94)	(-1.60)	(0.87)	(-0.57)	(-1.26)		
Bed4	2.53%	-4.18%	-5.80%	2.05%	-3.05%	-4.48%		
	(1.07)	(-1.06)	(-1.34)	(0.90)	(-0.73)	(-1.00)		
Bed5	1.55%	-5.65%	-3.24%	1.37%	-5.03%	-1.79%		
	(0.61)	(-1.36)	(-0.66)	(0.57)	(-1.16)	(-0.36)		
Bath2	-0.58%	-2.91%	-4.43%	-0.95%	-1.93%	-3.94%		
	(-0.78)	(-3.03)	(-4.20)	(-1.27)	(-2.03)	(-3.76)		
Bath3	-1.29%	-2.43%	-4.11%	-1.64%	-1.47%	-3.84%		
	(-1.31)	(-1.76)	(-3.15)	(-1.69)	(-1.11)	(-3.10)		
Bath4	0.07%	-3.01%	-2.58%	-0.11%	-2.46%	-1.95%		
	(0.05)	(-1.74)	(-1.38)	(-0.07)	(-1.54)	(-1.13)		
Bath5	-1.08%	3.69%	1.35%	-1.04%	3.45%	0.39%		
	(-0.51)	(1.11)	(0.44)	(-0.51)	(1.12)	(0.14)		
Log (List Price)	-0.05%	8.06%	6.75%	0.42%	6.60%	5.07%		
	(-0.04)	(5.33)	(5.71)	(0.32)	(4.82)	(4.29)		
Withdrawn					4.99%	-18.26%		
					(3.63)	(-10.27)		
Slow Sale				2.65%		20.69%		
				(3.60)		(13.98)		
Large Discount				-10.17%	21.63%	, ,		
_				(-12.02)	(15.71)			
Fixed Effects	Tract × Qtr. & Tract × Age Quintile							
Observations	20,363	20,363	20,363	20,363	20,363	20,363		

**Table IA.3: L2 Dataset - Descriptive Statistics** 

This table reports descriptive statistics for the sample of Confederate and control houses provided by L2 data. The sample includes all Confederate houses in the state of Florida, and control properties, defined as houses in the same census block group and in the same percentile of estimated house value. Panel A reports distinct number of, houses, and regional districts for the tests reported in Table 8 of the paper. Panel B reports pooled descriptive statistics for the owners of the house and the house value, and Panel C reports correlations across the variables of interest. Variable definitions are provided in Appendix A.

Panel A: Sample	Size						
-	Total Houses	Unique Blocks-Groups	Unique Tracks	Unique Counties			
Confederate	1,786	224	180	40			
Control Houses	12,563	224	180	40			
Panel B: Distribu	tion of Variables						
Variables	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Skewness	p25	Median	p75
Confederate	14,349	0.12	0.33	2.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
Black	13,575	0.10	0.31	2.58	0.00	0.00	0.00
College	11,129	0.57	0.50	-0.26	0.00	1.00	1.00
Democrat	13,349	0.22	0.41	1.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
Income	14,349	\$78,061.10	\$49,040.00	\$1.40	\$47,036.00	\$66,861.00	\$98,000.00
Buyer Age	14,349	60.04	16.40	-0.24	49.00	62.00	73.00
House Value	14,349	248,896	183,784.00	5.77	154,101.00	211,315.00	292,178.00
Panel C: Correlat	tion Matrix						
	Confederate	Black Homeowner	College	Democrat	Income	Buyer Age	House Valu
Confederate	1.00	-0.01	-0.03	0.00	-0.05	0.01	-0.05
Black		1.00	-0.04	0.37	-0.15	-0.06	-0.15
College			1.00	-0.03	0.19	-0.07	0.21
Democrat				1.00	-0.14	0.04	-0.12
Income					1.00	-0.01	0.48
Buyer Age						1.00	0.01
House Value							1.00

**Table IA.4 Residential Sorting on Confederate Properties** 

This table repeats Table 8 of the paper after expanding the sample of control properties to include properties in the same census tract and the same house value percentile and replacing *Block Group* × House Value Percentile fixed effects with *Census Tract* × *House Value Percentile* fixed effects.

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Race (Black)	-1.85%			-1.28%	-1.38%
	(-1.86)			(-1.31)	(-1.36)
Education (Some College)		-1.24%		-1.24%	-1.23%
		(-2.36)		(-2.37)	(-2.46)
Registered Democrat			-1.49%	-1.30%	-1.27%
			(-2.88)	(-2.58)	(-2.60)
Log (Income)					-0.46%
					(-1.23)
Log (Age)					-0.34%
					(-0.46)
Log (House Value)					-0.01%
					(-0.24)
Fixed Effects		Tract ×	House Value P	ercentile	
Observations	25,541	25,541	25,541	25,541	25,541
R-squared	7.39%	7.40%	7.40%	7.46%	7.60%

### Experiment Appendix: Excerpts from the Survey

### 1. Priming and Non-Priming Articles

Half of respondents will be asked to summarize the following article as follows:

#### Please read the following article and summarize it with one or two sentences:

Republican South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley signed into law a measure to remove the Confederate battle flag from the state Capitol, the result of a years-long movement that was reignited by the murders of nine members of a historically black church in Charleston.

Before adding her signature to the legislation, Haley spoke of the black victims, who were killed by a white man after they welcomed him into a prayer meeting.

In the days after the shootings, photos emerged of the killer posing with the Confederate flag, a Civil War relic that is also seen as an emblem of racism. That sparked a nationwide debate about the flag's place in American culture. Many businesses stopped making and selling the flag and its images, and public officials discussed removing the flag from public grounds. That included South Carolina, which first flew the Confederate flag at Capitol in Columbia in 1962 as a response to the civil rights movement.

The state legislature, which lost state Senator Clementa Pinckney, the church's top pastor, in the shooting, responded by voting overwhelmingly this week to take the flag down.

Republican Senator Lindsey Graham of South Carolina praised the flag's removal. "After the horrific tragedy in Charleston, our state could have gone down one of two paths, division or reconciliation," Graham said. "I am thankful we chose the path of reconciliation."

Please write one or two sentences to summarize the article.

The other half of respondents will receive the following control article:

#### Please read the following article and summarize it with one or two sentences:

Legislators introduced a bipartisan bill aimed at protecting children from the harmful impacts of social media.

The bill, sponsored by Republican Senator Marsha Blackburn and Democratic Senator Richard Blumenthal, came as Congress held hearings on the dangers of social media for children and teens. The proposed Kids Online Safety Act includes three key elements:

Social media companies would be required to provide the ability to disable addictive features and allow users to opt-out of recommendations like pages or other videos to "like." It would also make the strongest privacy protections the default.

The bill would give parents tools to track time spent in the app, limit purchases and help to address addictive usage.

It would require social media companies to prevent and mitigate harm to minors, including self-harm, suicide, eating disorders, substance abuse, sexual exploitation and unlawful products for minors, like alcohol.

Dr. Dave Anderson, clinical psychologist at the Child Mind Institute, said the bill marks the sensible intersection of tech and public policy. "I think politicians are taking what we know from the science and saying, 'How do we build in these safeguards?" Anderson said.

He said social media algorithms have evolved to show children only more of what they are interested in rather than a variety of viewpoints and that marks a dangerous change for children with mental health issues.

Please write one or two sentences to summarize the article.

### 2. House Comparisons

In the following pages we present the questions from one of the 20 blocks of 10 pairwise comparisons (the five houses and five house names are presented in alternative combinations and positions in the remaining 19 blocks seen by other participants). Participants begin with the following instruction page.

For the next set of questions, imagine you are moving to a new town and are looking for a home.

In the 10 comparison questions that follow, each of the hypothetical houses is located in the same neighborhood, was built around the same time, and is very similar in size (same number of bedrooms and bathrooms).

For each pair of houses that you are presented, where would you prefer to live for your family home?

The "next" arrow will appear at the bottom of the page after ten seconds (you must spend at least 10 seconds for each comparison, more time is fine).

Click the arrow to begin.

1 of 10

### 612 Kenwood Ave. 592 Linden Ave.



612 Kenwood Ave.

592 Linden Ave.

2 of 10

# 481 Gresham St. 423 Dixie Ave.



481 Gresham St.

423 Dixie Ave.

3 of 10

353 Juniper Rd. 612 Kenwood Ave.



353 Juniper Rd.

612 Kenwood Ave.

4 of 10

### 592 Linden Ave. 423 Dixie Ave.



592 Linden Ave.

423 Dixie Ave.

5 of 10

## 353 Juniper Rd. 481 Gresham St.



353 Juniper Rd.

481 Gresham St.

6 of 10

# 423 Dixie Ave. 612 Kenwood Ave.



423 Dixie Ave.

612 Kenwood Ave.

7 of 10

## 481 Gresham St. 592 Linden Ave.



481 Gresham St.

592 Linden Ave.

8 of 10

423 Dixie Ave. 353 Juniper Rd.



423 Dixie Ave.

353 Juniper Rd.

9 of 10

## 612 Kenwood Ave. 481 Gresham St.



612 Kenwood Ave.

481 Gresham St.

10 of 10

592 Linden Ave. 353 Juniper Rd.



592 Linden Ave.

353 Juniper Rd.