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Statement read by SP to Peter Khiss, New York Times, September 3, 1970

Regional Plan Association agrees with Mayor Lindsay that the City has been undercounted. Our research indicates that New York City's population should be approximately 7.9 million. But there should be no self congratulations over numbers. Stability could mean social immobility.

From a regional and social perspective, it is not the total population of New York City--per capita aid aside--that one should be concerned with. Rather, it is the radically changing ethnic and racial composition of the City that one should consider.

The City's increasing concentration of blacks and Puerto Ricans in the last 10 years, a continuation of a longer trend, implies severely restricted mobility for those groups, a fact documented by Regional Plan Association in a report last September, Housing Opportunities.

The City's non-white and Puerto Rican population has increased from 1 million in 1950 to 1,730 in 1960 and reached 2.45 million in 1968, or from 13% of the City's population in 1950 to 31% in 1968. If present trends continue, Regional Plan Association predicts New York City will be 50% non-white and Puerto Rican by 1985.

The problem is similar elsewhere in the Region. Newark is now more than 50% black and Puerto Rican. If present trends continue, it will be more than 90% black and Puerto Rican by 1985. Our statistics indicate little out migration of blacks and Puerto Ricans from the other older cities of the Region.

The Bureau of the Census estimated the national population at 205 million in April, but the preliminary count shows 200 million. That means the Region, 10% of the nation, could have been undercounted by $\frac{1}{2}$ -million and New York City by a couple hundred thousand.