

**POLITICAL DIMENSIONAL OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
A CASE STUDY OF MEMPHIS, TN**

**THERE'S NO PLACE
LIKE HOME...**

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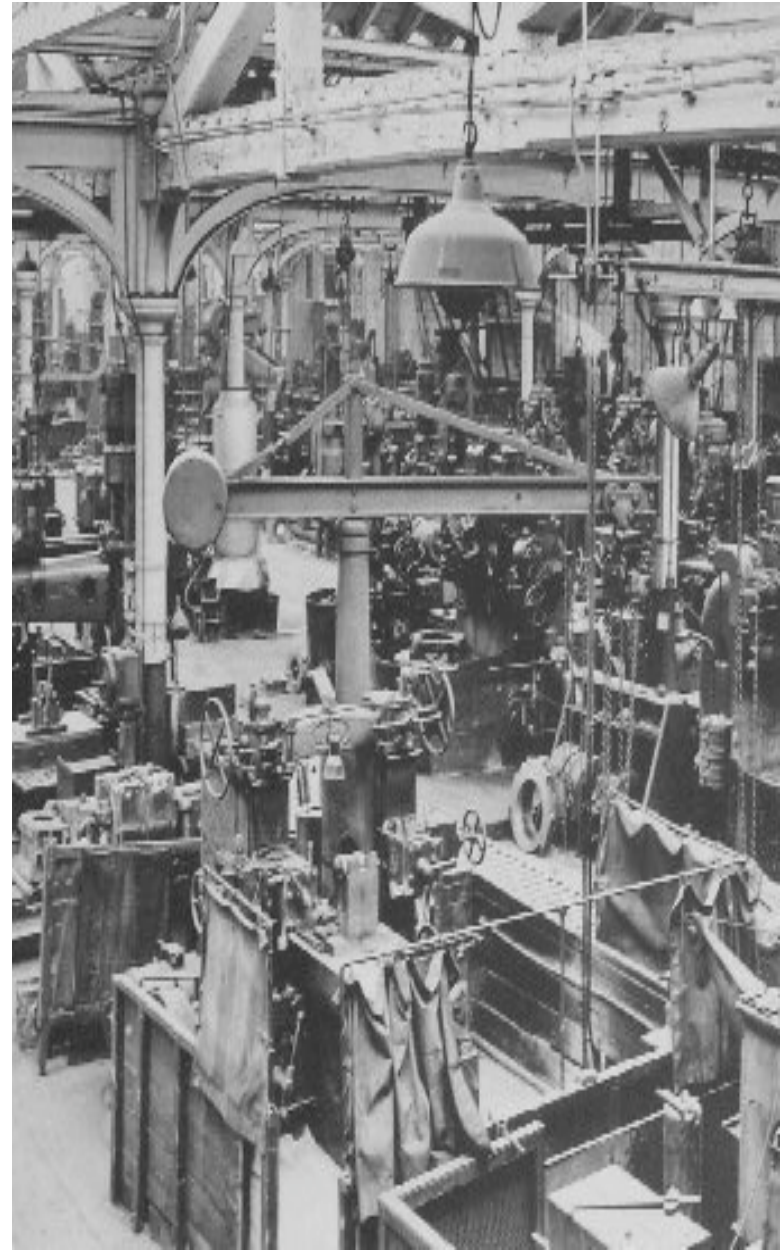


THE BLUFF CITY...

In order to truly assess a city as a economic force and their reasoning of environmental policies, one must acknowledge from what circumstance it has overcome, whom lead its residents to heralding successes and set backs, and present potential strengths that will aid its future.

URBANIZATION:

- © Much is to be said about Memphis, Tennessee as a thriving city, especially amongst the African-American community. With a population of about 700,000 residents, the Bluff city is very advantageous of its location.
- © Abundant soil and access to navigable transportation connections has tremendously to Memphis' urban, commercial and industrial growth since its establishment.



BLACK FLIGHT:



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- ◆ **Memphis, Tennessee was heavily affected by the great migration.**
- ◆ **As most African-Americans departed from their rural to take jobs in towns and cities of the north and south, Memphis flourished tripling its population between 1860 and 1870.**
- ◆ **The most common realms of migration amongst the African-American population in the South work related.**
- ◆ **Some even opted to forfeit the wages being given to employees already in these industrial capacities to be in less volatile work environments.**
- ◆ **By 1910, this aided into urbanizing the African American population to 22% in the south.**

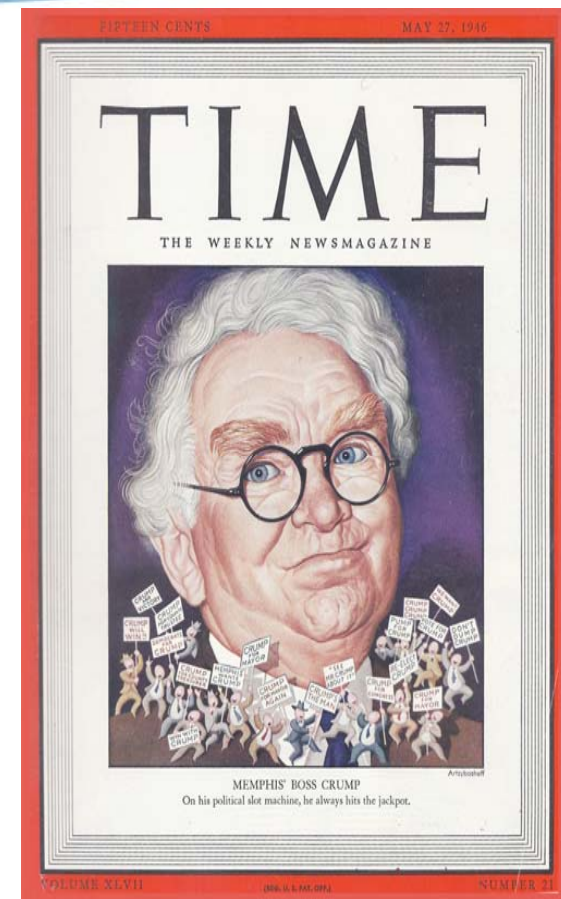
POLITICAL BOSSES:



- **One of the most notable political bosses to the city would capitalize on this urban Black Flight, Edward Crump. “Boss Crump “ gained firm control of Memphis politics when the Great Depression began.**
- **Even when Crump was not serving in a delegated office, his motives were still the point of action, due to the fact that the politicians, whom he endorsed, were most often elected.**

SOCIAL ORDER: THE NEW DEAL

- **Crump supported New Deal agricultural programs to help the cotton traders, industries, and large farmers.**
- **Crump supported all of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal projects.**
- **Roosevelt and his campaign manager, James Farley, made note of Crump's alliance with labor and African American groups; using Crump's model in the 1936 and 1940 elections to persuade African Americans in the South to vote Democratic instead of Republican.**



SOCIAL GRIEVANCE:

- Due to a labor dispute amongst the City and its Sanitation workers in 1968.
- This issue of human dignity, economic equity and an attack on poverty brought Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to the city in protest; and ultimately to his disheartening and untimely assassination at the Lorraine Motel.



“KING COTTON”

Memphis Cotton Exchange

- ◆ Before the Civil War, the era of “King Cotton” was immensely profitable, due to Memphis’ rich bluff soil. Sadly, slavery and the slave trade were the driving components; as they were responsible for every operational facet of the Memphis Cotton Exchange except for collecting and determining wages and expenditures.

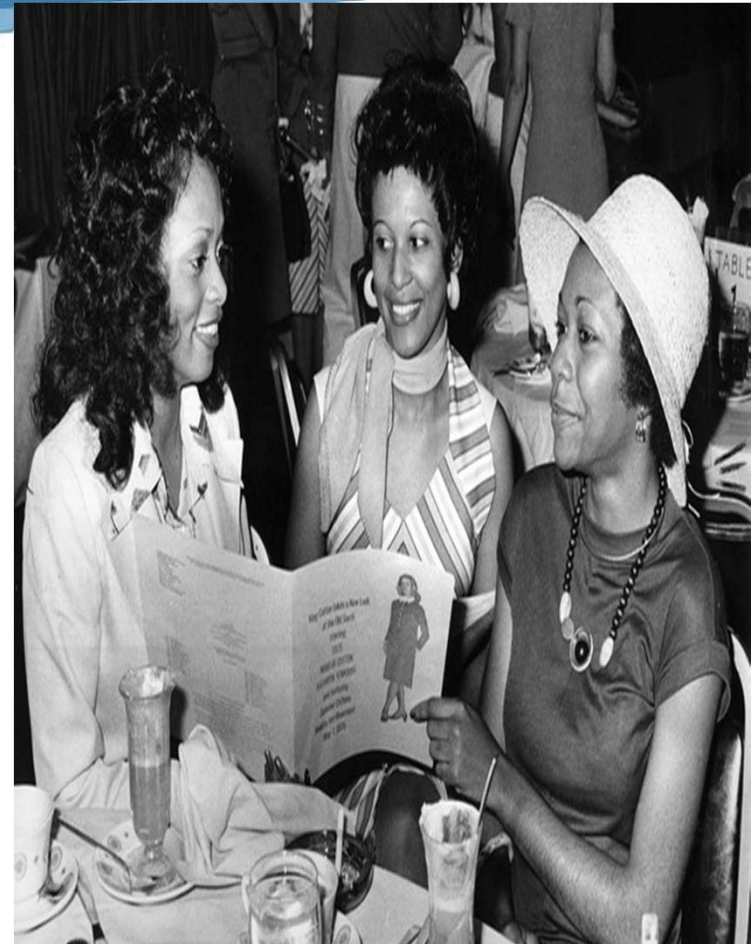
Est. 1873- Trade End. 1978

Four of the original Memphis town squares’ street names are coined with common slave terms:

- ⊙ Auction
- ⊙ Market
- ⊙ Court
- ⊙ Exchange

RACIAL RECONCILIATION:

- ◆ **The Memphis Cotton Exchange has since tried to reconcile race relations, even going as far to crown its first African American queen, Debra Kaye Trammell in 1975.**
- ◆ **The Annual Cotton Carnival parade now invites the Memphis City School children; whom are predominately African-American to participate and perform in the festivities.**





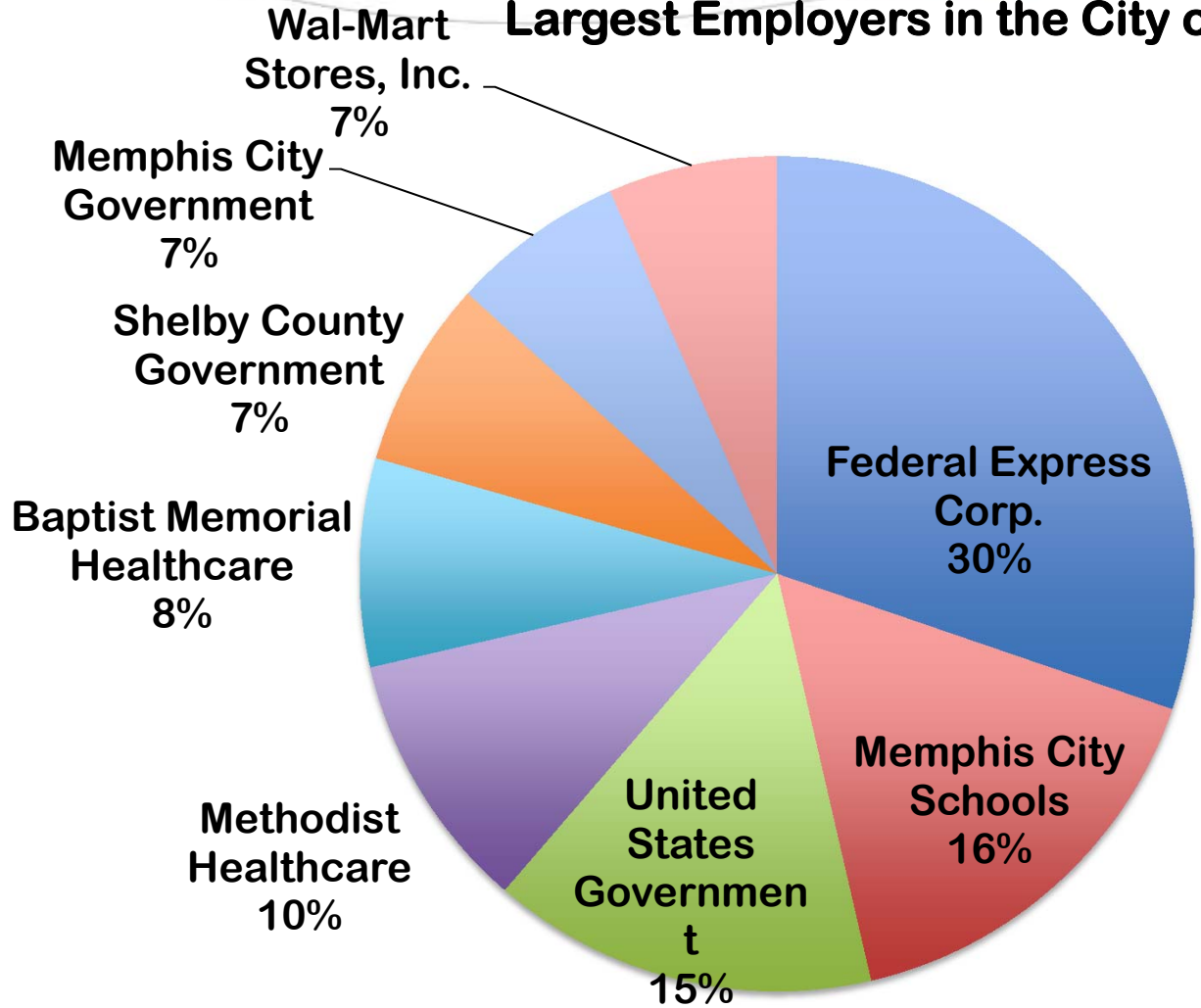
Memphis: America's Aerotropolis™
Where Runway, Road, Rail & River Merge™



ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT:



Largest Employers in the City of Memphis



ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT:

- ◆ **Commonly noted as America's premier Aerotropolis, Memphis also serves as "America's Distribution Center", claims the third-largest railroad center in the country and the fourth largest inland port.**
- ◆ **This would mean that in trade, shipping and commerce, Memphis is essentially the "international gateway" to import and export; and can do so domestically within 2 days. Business corporations and agencies enjoy the immediate access of river, runway, and rail, and road with I-40 serving as the third busiest trucking roadway in the**
- ◆ **About 10 % of Memphis' workforce is employed within the transportation, distribution and utilities industry, awarding it the highest share of amongst the top 100 largest metro areas in the United States.**

ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION :

- ◆ **The City of Memphis' environmental policies and regulations is managed by the Division of Public , which operates on a budget in excess of \$60 million and its Capital Improvement Budget averages approximately \$80 million annually.**

Fats, Oils
and Grease
(FOG)
Program

Industrial
Monitoring
&
Pretreatment
Program
(IMPP)

Storm Water
Program

Wastewater
Treatment
Plants

HARDSHIPS:

- ◆ **Historical Backlash (Civil War, National Civil Rights Movement)**
- ◆ **High crime rates**
- ◆ **Poverty**
- ◆ **Human Capital (in terms of workforce development, skill and education)**

ADVANTAGES:

- ◆ **Human infrastructure (human capital and the structure and facilities to needed to maintain or improve the education and skills of people)**
- ◆ **Amusement/Entertainment (home of the Memphis Blues, Memphis Grizzlies, Stax Museum, Beale Street and the Memphis Queen)**
- ◆ **Religion and morals (C.O.G.I.C. world headquarters and position in bible belt)**
- ◆ **Low cost of living & labor, geographic location & infrastructure**

FEDEX & CO.



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- ◆ **The presence of the world headquarters of FedEx and its subsidiaries has been a burgeoning asset to the commercial growth of Memphis since its origin by Fred Smith with over 200,000 employment opportunities and its 40 billion dollar plus revenue each year.**
- ◆ **However, since acquiring the Memphis Grizzlies in 2001, its host venue, the FedEx Forum has circulated a viable buzz in both social/entertainment and economical aspects. Each year numerous events held at the FedEx Forum attract out-of-county visitors to Memphis.**
- ◆ **The total economic impact on Memphis generated by these activities is \$223 million annually. This includes the impact of all spending by the Memphis Grizzlies, by the operation of the FedEx Forum, and all visitors spending, as it flows through the entire Shelby County economy.**

COMPARISON:

- **Memphis's idea to acquire a national sports team was just one way there were preparing to excel in future endeavors, mirroring the successes of such cities as Atlanta, Georgia.**
- **Surprisingly, through many recent studies, Memphis has been selected by visitors as the more accommodating place to travel in leisure.**





COMPARISON:

- Studies also show that cost of living may be more efficient in Memphis with rent and groceries are higher in Atlanta by 40% and 1.7%.
- Sequentially, restaurant prices are 2.8% lower in Atlanta, probably due to the fact that Memphis is world-renowned for their barbeque franchises that draw guests from all over to aid in tourism.

The Memphis Blues

or

(Mister Crump)

By W. C. HANDY

Tempo di Blues



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The End

