

"Food Deserts"

The **ALDI** supermarket on Lamar Avenue in Memphis is closing for good, but there's nothing novel about businesses fleeing mostly-black areas. What **IS** unique was the candor of an **ALDI** spokesperson who explained its reasons for closing that particular store:

"Our decision was based on several factors, including repeated burglaries, property damage and poor sales performance. Out of concern for our employees and customers, keeping this store open was no longer a sustainable option."

While that **ALDI** spokesperson had the courage to specify burglaries and vandalism, he or she discretely left out gun-battles, armed robberies, auto theft, shop-lifting and "*grazing*." (The latter occurs when customers consume the contents of an item and discard its wrapper before they can be charged for it.) Sam Walton euphemistically called the last two practices "*shrinkage*."

This is why the vast majority of mostly black areas have become what is sometimes called "*food deserts*." That's an expression that describes the exodus of most retail outlets selling food items, which are driven from the area by every kind of violent crime or property crime committed against them or their patrons.

*This dynamic is merely one reason why decent people want to get as far away from mostly black areas as geography and income permit. Most blacks will steal anything that isn't bolted down or too much effort to steal. It's NOT "*red-lining*" or white racism that creates "*ghettos*," it's the criminality of most blacks. Most ghettos were once lovely, white areas before blacks moved in and destroyed them.*

Some reporter from the **MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL** bemoaned the closing of the Lamar **ALDI**, citing the fact that customers must now experience the inconvenience of traveling an additional 1.5 miles to patronize the nearest full-service grocery store.

So what? I have to travel 11 miles to the nearest grocery store where I live, because the n*ggers drove me out of St. Louis, to an entirely new location where the vast majority of residents are, thankfully, law-abiding whites.

There's little sympathy for *food deserts* around here. There's little sympathy for those who create them, either.

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