

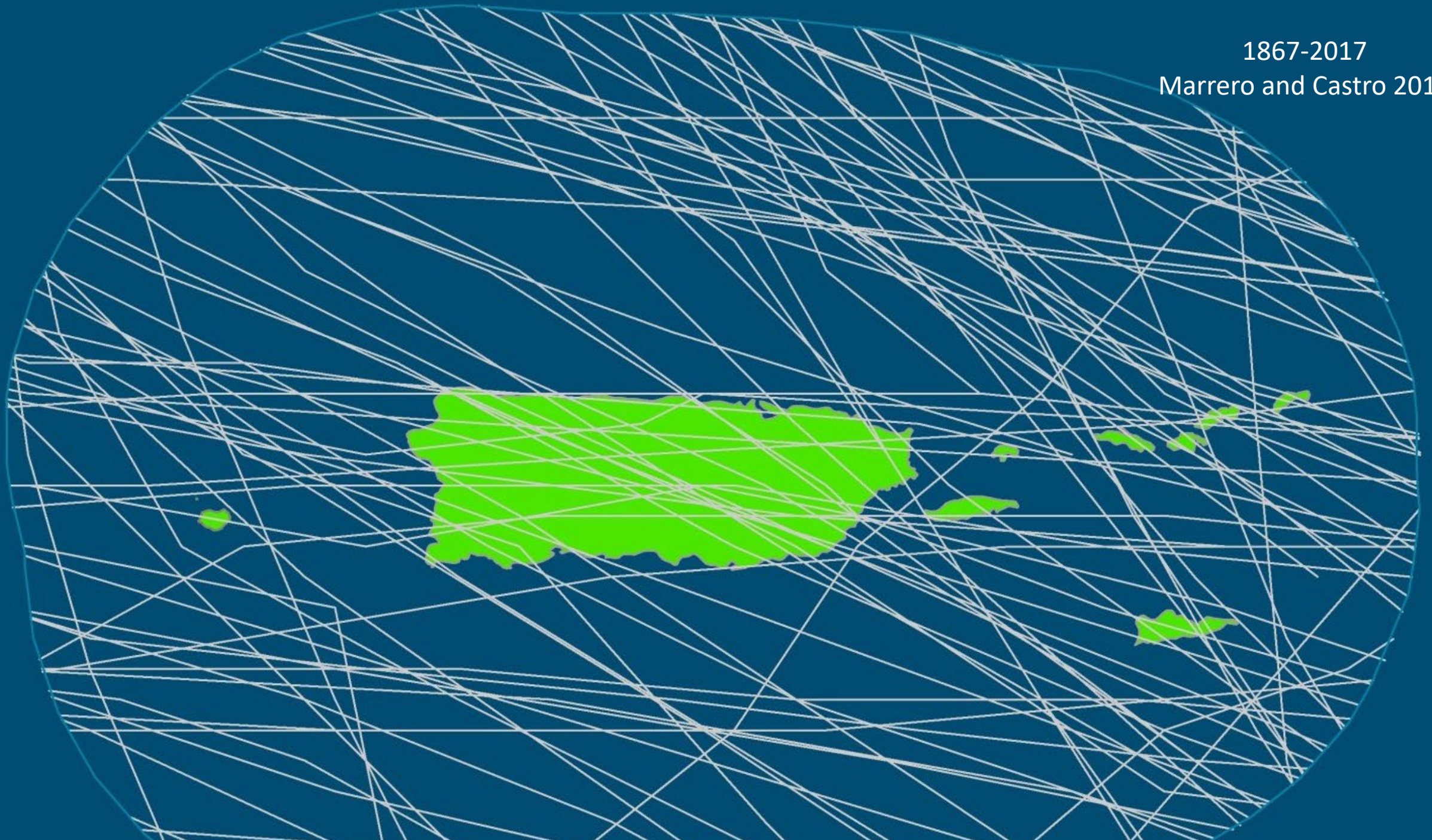
Hurricane María exposed the profound weaknesses of many of Puerto Rico's sectors,

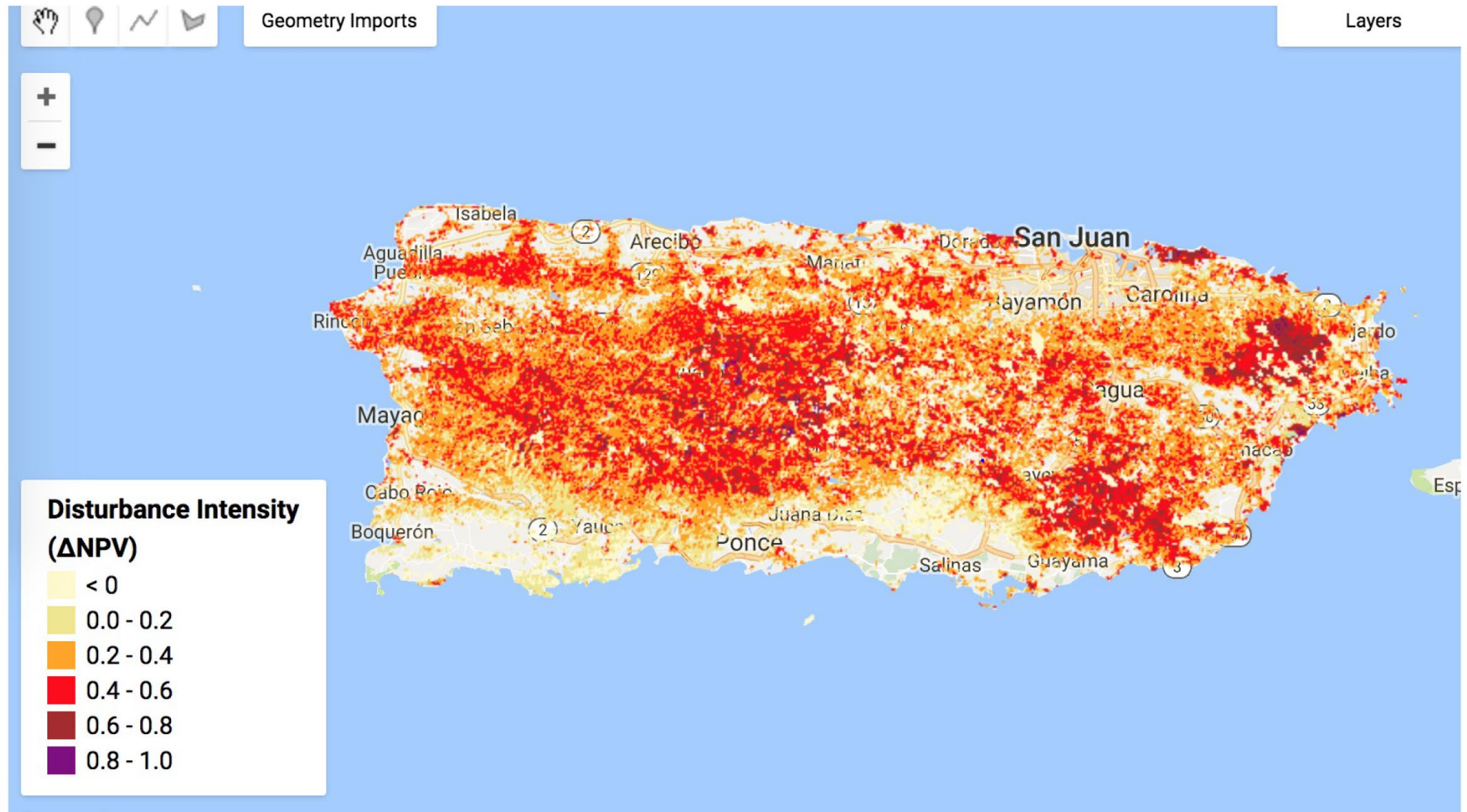
- Housing:
- At least one third of about 1.2 million occupied homes on the island were destroyed or suffered significant damage (Woellert, 2017).
- one third of homeowners risk foreclosures (Goldstein, 2017).
- 55 percent of residential and commercial construction was built informally (Government of Puerto Rico, 2018).
- 60 percent of FEMA applicants were initially found ineligible (Florido, 2018).
- The Government of Puerto Rico is determined to use Hurricane María as an
- 'opportunity' to tackle the issue of housing informality. political and economic elites discredits informal settlements and reinforces –not reduces– the vulnerability of low-income people who live in these communities, and thus supports their vulnerabilization



- In today's context of climate change as a producer of growing inequality
- Informal housing, a then unattended problem, got worse
 - 55% of the residential and commercial sector were built informally
 - 1.2M homes were damaged or destroyed
 - 60% FEMA claims were initially denied
 - Many informal settlements are in vulnerable areas (prone to floods, landslides)
 - Government discourse on informal settlement (as a choice) marginalizes these communities even more.
 - Organized communities with informal settlements more resilient
- *Algoed & Hernández Torrales, Radical Housing Vol 1(1): 29-47*

1867-2017
Marrero and Castro 2018





Economic Activity Index (GDB-EAI)

Up to March 2012, these indicators were: total non-farm payroll employment, cement sales, gasoline consumption, and electric power consumption. As of April 2012, the electric power consumption variable was replaced by the electric power generation variable as the fourth indicator.

The U.S. Supreme Court has held that the Territory Clause of the U.S. Constitution (Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2) authorizes Congress to treat territories differently than states under federal laws and programs as long as there is a “rational basis” for the differential treatment.







Moreno Rosario & Ortiz

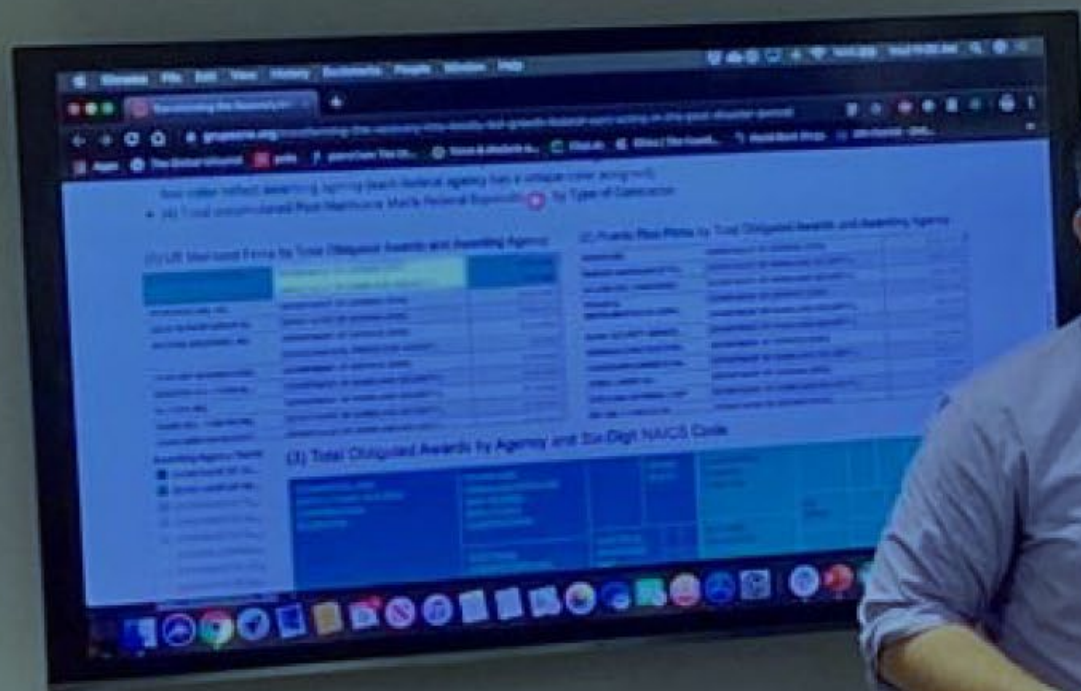


LISTENING TO
PUERTO RICO



listeningtopuertorico.org

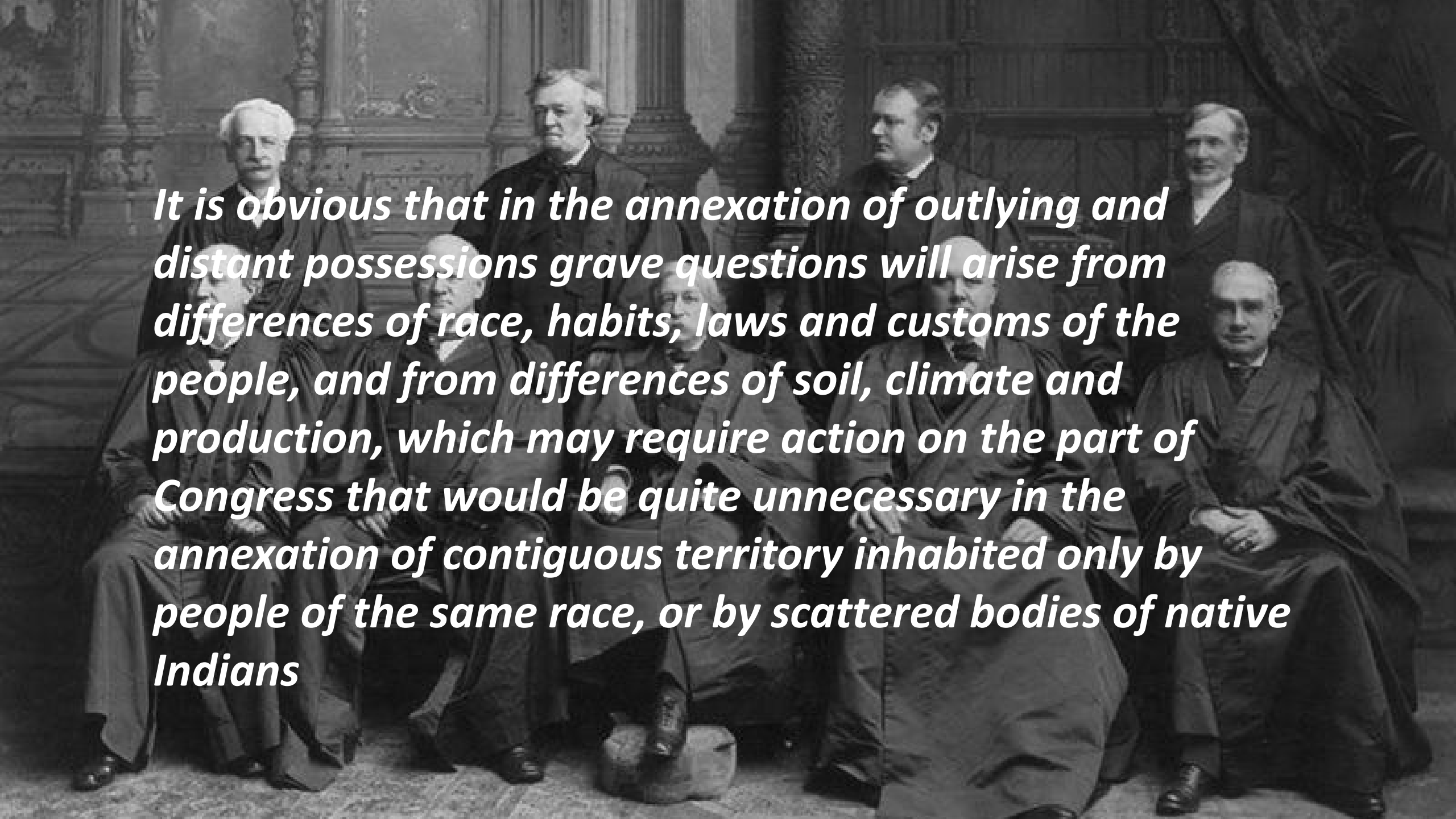
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_uD9eOHISw



ER FOR A NEW ECONOMY

CNI
PUERT





It is obvious that in the annexation of outlying and distant possessions grave questions will arise from differences of race, habits, laws and customs of the people, and from differences of soil, climate and production, which may require action on the part of Congress that would be quite unnecessary in the annexation of contiguous territory inhabited only by people of the same race, or by scattered bodies of native Indians

Trees play a big role in regulating climate, sucking large amounts of carbon dioxide from the air to build tissues



PUERTO RICO
ONE YEAR
AFTER HURRICANE
MARIA



The island continues to suffer from a tenuous electric grid, ruined infrastructure, and financial bankruptcy a year after the hurricane; the increase in migratory numbers reflects the limitations that many continue to face on the island. More importantly, the island's population continues to decline, and as a result, many schools have been closed, small businesses experienced financial losses, and death rates exceeded birth rates for the first time in history.

Lacks economic capacity, Institutional capacity, political capacity to obtain or retain resources.

It is obvious that in the annexation of outlying and distant possessions grave questions will arise from differences of race, habits, laws and customs of the people, and from differences of soil, climate and production, which may require action on the part of Congress that would be quite unnecessary in the annexation of contiguous territory inhabited only by people of the same race, or by scattered bodies of native Indians

The **insular cases** were cases heard by the Supreme Court from 1901 up to the 1920's for the purpose of defining how the U.S. would handle its relationship with these new territories and their governments.

Downes v. Bidwell, 182 U.S. 244 (1901), was a case in which the [US Supreme Court](#) decided whether [US territories](#) were subject to the provisions and protections of the [US Constitution](#). This issue is sometimes stated as whether the Constitution follows the flag. The resulting decision narrowly held that the Constitution did not necessarily apply to territories. Instead, the [US Congress](#) had jurisdiction to create law within territories in certain circumstances, particularly in those dealing with revenue, which would not be allowed by the Constitution for proper states within the Union. It has become known as one of the "[Insular Cases](#)".

Downes v. Bidwell,⁵⁴ which challenged the validity of the Foraker Act as violating the Uniformity Clause.