

# Reaffirming the Role of School Integration in K-12 Education Policy

*A Conversation Among Policymakers, Advocates and Educators*

Friday, November 13, 2009  
Howard University School of Law  
Moot Court Room, Houston Hall  
Washington, D.C.

**Conference Hosts:**

NAACP Legal Defense and  
Educational Fund, Inc.

Mexican American Legal Defense  
and Educational Fund

ACLU Racial Justice Program

Poverty & Race Research Action  
Council

Leadership Conference on Civil  
Rights

Citizens' Commission on Civil  
Rights

Civil Rights Project/Proyecto  
Derechos Civiles at UCLA

Charles Hamilton Houston  
Institute for Race & Justice at  
Harvard Law School

Center for Civil Rights at UNC  
School of Law

Kirwan Institute for the Study of  
Race & Ethnicity at The  
Ohio State University

Institute on Race and Poverty at  
the University of Minnesota Law  
School

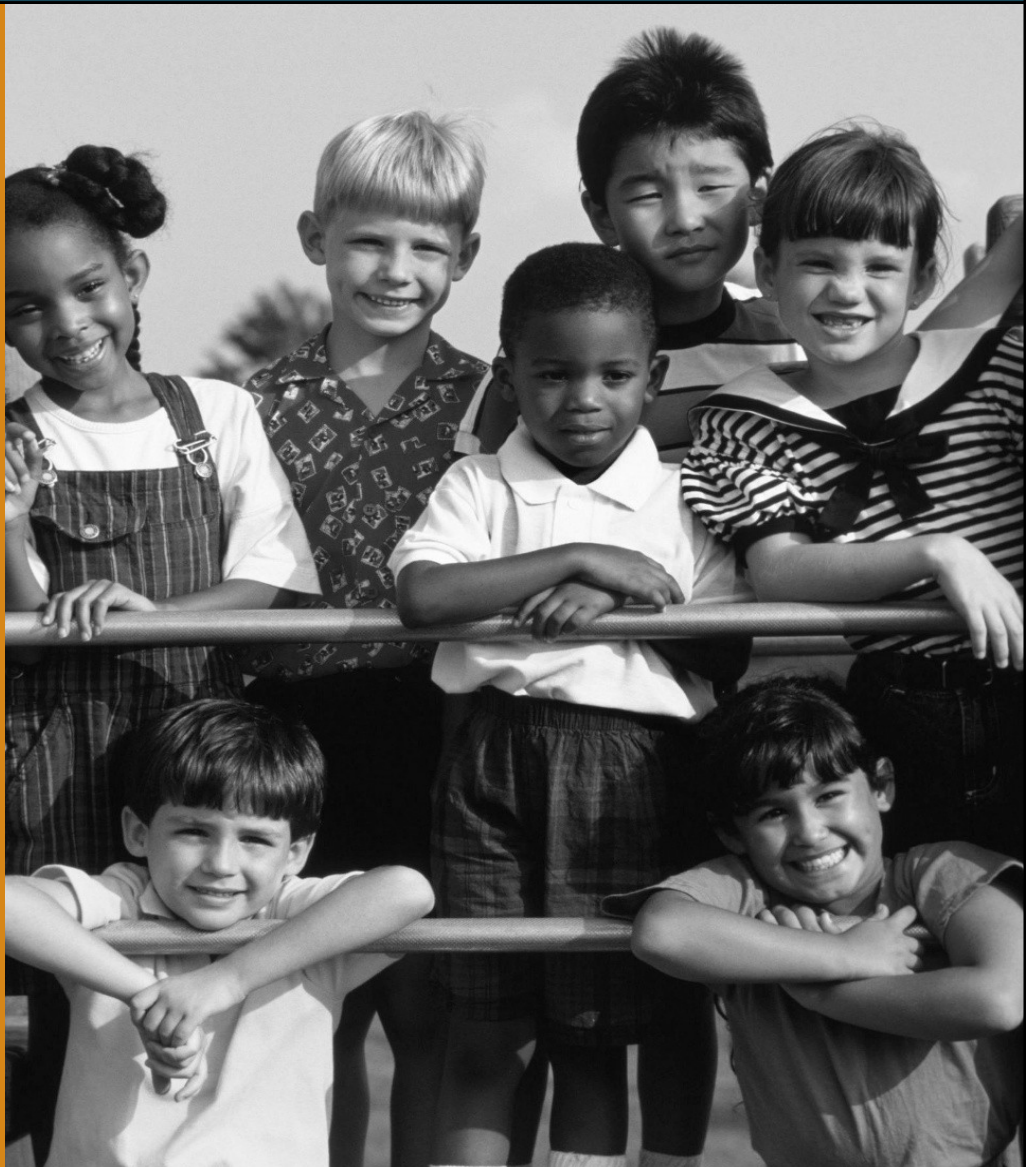
Chief Justice Earl Warren  
Institute on Race, Ethnicity and  
Diversity at Berkeley Law School

Education Rights Center at  
Howard University School of Law

Fair Housing Law Clinical  
Program at Howard University  
School of Law

Center for Understanding Race  
and Education at Teachers  
College, Columbia University

Education and the Public Interest  
Center at the University of  
Colorado at Boulder



**“Unless our children begin to learn together,  
there is little hope that our people will ever learn to live together.”**

*Milliken v. Bradley* (1974) (Marshall, J. dissenting)

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The importance of promoting integration and avoiding racial isolation was reaffirmed in the United States Supreme Court's 2007 decision, *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1 (PICS)*. Yet this compelling interest is absent from many current policies related to public education. Furthermore, in numerous communities around the nation, segregated residential housing patterns prohibit creation of diverse neighborhoods and undermine efforts to maintain diversity in public schools.

Racial and economic integration is important not just for moral reasons, but because of the documented benefits that result from diverse, low poverty schools. The federal government has the opportunity to develop innovative policies that combat the harmful conditions of racial and economic isolation in our public schools and neighborhoods. This conference brings a diverse group of civil rights researchers, parents, advocates and educators together with Obama administration officials to explore and analyze the racial and economic integration incentives in current and proposed Department of Education and Department of Housing and Urban Development policies, regulations and spending programs. Using the expertise of this engaged constituency and other pro-integration partners, these conversations will illuminate alternative incentives and requirements for racially and economically integrated school and housing policies.

### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHT

SPECIAL YOUTH PERFORMANCE BY



The experiences and insights of the nation's youth are integral to the campaign to promote diverse schools and communities. Our afternoon session incorporates these voices with a special performance by **City at Peace**. Started in 1994 in Washington, D.C., City at Peace is a national nonprofit youth development organization that uses performing arts to teach and promote cross-cultural understanding and non-violent conflict resolution. With an emphasis on youth-led programs and artistic excellence, the organization challenges participants to create positive community change in pursuit of a city at peace. City at Peace-National has an administrative office in New York City and programs in Charlotte, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, New York City, Baton Rouge, Washington, D.C., Israel and the newest site in Capetown, South Africa.

## ABOUT THE HOSTS

THE conference hosts are members of a coalition of national civil rights organizations, university-based research centers and scholars engaged in advocacy to promote racial and economic integration in housing and K-12 public schools. This national school integration coalition was founded in June 2009 to:

- (1) Influence federal policy to support school and housing integration;
- (2) Connect and mobilize pro-integration advocates and practitioners around the nation; and
- (3) Demonstrate to federal policymakers that an active constituency is working to create and maintain integrated schools and neighborhoods and want federal policy to reflect these goals.

Become an active advocate to promote racially and economically diverse public schools. Connect with conference participants and further today's discussion in the "Ending Racial Isolation in Schools" Facebook Group.

The coalition member organizations work individually and collaboratively to further this agenda through conferences, scholarship, publications and advocacy. Recent coalition efforts include meetings with Department of Education officials to discuss current guidelines regarding school integration and to offer comments to the Department of Education urging revision of the Department's proposed standards for the "Race to the Top" funds to reflect racial diversity goals. For more information about the mission and work of each of the host organizations, see the back cover of the conference brochure.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The conference hosts would like to thank the following people and organizations for their assistance in developing this conference:

- The Members of the Conference Planning Committee, including Gina Chirichigno and Susan Eaton of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice; Adrienne M.B. Davis and Benita N. Jones at the UNC Center for Civil Rights; Phil Tegeler and Lauren Hill of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council; Marguerite Spencer of the Kirwan Institute; John Brittain of David A. Clarke School of Law, University of the District of Columbia; Amy Stuart Wells of Teachers College, Columbia University; and Kevin Welner of University of Colorado at Boulder.
- Dean Kurt Schmoke, faculty, staff, students and alums of Howard University School of Law, including Professor Derek Black, Professor Brian Gilmore, David Clunie '05, Bryan MacAvoy '06, Ernest Lyles '06, Jody Owens '06, Michelle Jones '06, Princess Wiggins Lyles '06 and Louis Brown '07.
- The hosts offer special thanks to **The Ford Foundation** and **The Schott Foundation** for their generous support of this conference.

## AGENDA

9:30 a.m.- **REGISTRATION**

10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.- **WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

10:30 a.m.

Brian Gilmore, *Director, Fair Housing Clinic, Howard University School of Law*

### OPENING REMARKS

Kurt Schmoke, *Dean, Howard University School of Law*

### WHY ARE WE HERE?

John Brittain, *Visiting Professor of Law, David A. Clarke School of Law, University of the District of Columbia*

Theodore M. Shaw, *Professor of Professional Practice, Columbia Law School*

Lisa Chavez, *Research Analyst, Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity and Diversity, Berkeley Law School*

10:30 a.m.- **PANEL ONE: The Role of the Federal Government in Reducing Racial and Socioeconomic Isolation and Promoting Diversity in K-12 Schooling**

11:45 a.m.

This panel highlights current legal guidelines governing school integration and what the U.S. Department of Education is doing and could be doing in support of school diversity.

Russlynn Ali, *Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education*

Anurima Bhargava, *Director of the Education Practice, NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.*

Roslyn Mickelson, *Professor of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

Pat Todd, *Executive Director for Student Assignment, Jefferson County Public Schools*

Julie Fernandes, *Deputy Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division*

Jocelyn Samuels, *Senior Counselor, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division*

Moderator: Derek Black, *Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Education Rights Center, Howard University School of Law*

11:45 a.m. **BREAK**

12:00 p.m.- **PANEL TWO: Federal Education Funding and Opportunities to Promote K-12 School Integration**

1:15 p.m.

This panel explores how federal education funding and policy can support diversity goals.

Carmel Martin, *Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, U.S. Department of Education*

Susan Eaton, *Research Director, The Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice*

David Hinojosa, *Education Staff Attorney, Mexican American Legal Defense Fund*

Sean Reardon, *Associate Professor of Education and (by courtesy) Sociology, Stanford University*

Bill Magnotta, *President-Elect, Magnet Schools of America*

Roberto Rodriguez, *Special Assistant to the President for Education Policy, White House Domestic Policy Council*

Moderator: Lia Epperson, *Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress*

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

**AGENDA**

1:15 p.m.-  
2:15 p.m.      **LUNCH**

2:15 p.m.-  
2:30 p.m.      **Youth Performance by City at Peace**, with introduction by Charles Hamilton Houston Jr.

2:30 p.m.-  
3:45 p.m.      **PANEL THREE: Promoting Integration Through Interdistrict Programs**

This panel highlights emerging regional and interdistrict approaches to addressing racial isolation and promoting K-12 diversity.

Amy Stuart Wells, *Professor of Sociology and Education and Director of the Center for Understanding Race and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University*

Don Senti, *Superintendent, School District of Clayton, Missouri*

Caty Royce, *Director, Fund for an OPEN Society*

Bill Taylor, *Chair, Citizens' Commission on Civil Rights*

Denise Forte, *Committee Staff, House Education and Labor Committee*

David J. Johns, *Senior Education Advisor, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee*

Moderator: Dennis Parker, *Director, ACLU Racial Justice Program*

3:45 p.m.      **BREAK**

4:00 p.m.-  
5:00 p.m.      **PANEL FOUR: Linking Housing Opportunity to Integrated Schools**

This panel explores how to best link federal housing and education policy to promote racial and economic integration.

Michelle Aronowitz, *Deputy General Counsel for Fair Housing and Enforcement, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*

Myron Orfield, *Executive Director, Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota Law School*

Dolores Acevedo-Garcia, *Associate Professor, The Bowvé College of Health Sciences and Associate Director, Institute on Urban Health Research, Northeastern University*

Demetria McCain, *Director of Advocacy and Education, Inclusive Communities Project*

Derek Douglas, *Special Assistant to President for Urban Affairs, Domestic Policy Council*

Moderator: Phil Tegeler, *Executive Director, Poverty & Race Research Action Council*

5:00 p.m.-  
5:30 p.m.      **CLOSING REMARKS/NEXT STEPS**

John Charles Boger, *Dean, UNC School of Law*

Gary Orfield, *Co-Director, Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA*

John A. Powell, *Executive Director, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at The Ohio State University*

5:30 p.m.-  
7:00 p.m.      **RECEPTION**



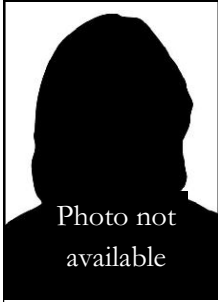
**PARTICIPANTS**



**Dolores Acevedo-Garcia** is an Associate Professor at The Bouvé College of Health Sciences and Associate Director of The Institute on Urban Health Research at Northeastern University. Her research focuses on the effect of residential segregation and immigrant adaptation on health disparities along racial and ethnic lines; the role of housing policies and immigrant policies in reducing those disparities; and the health and well-being of children with special needs and their families. Dr. Acevedo-Garcia is a member of the Social Science Advisory Board of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council, Co-Chair on the Board of Directors of the Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston, and is a member of the Board of Directors of Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts. Dr. Acevedo-Garcia earned her MPA-URP and Ph. D. from Princeton University.



**Russlynn Ali** is the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education. Prior to her appointment by President Obama in March 2009, Ali was vice president of the Education Trust in Washington, D.C., and the founding executive director of the Education Trust-West in Oakland. Ali served as the liaison for the president of the Children's Defense Fund and as assistant director of policy and research at the Broad Foundation. She has taught at the University of Southern California Law Center and the University of California at Davis. Ali was a contract attorney at Bird, Marella, Boxer and Wolpert, deputy co-director and of counsel at the Advancement Project and English, Munger & Rice, and an attorney at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton. Ali earned her J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law and B.A. from American University.



**Michelle Aronowitz** is the Deputy General Counsel for Fair Housing and Enforcement at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Prior to joining HUD, Aronowitz was Deputy Solicitor General in the Office of the New York State Attorney General. Aronowitz has also served as a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division and as White House associate counsel. Aronowitz earned her J.D. from Stanford University and B.A. from Yale University.



**Anurima Bhargava** is Director of the Education Practice at the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund where she engages actively in litigation and advocacy to expand educational access and opportunity for students of color. She also advises institutions of higher education on providing equal access and opportunities to all students through their admissions, financial aid and scholarship, and outreach programs. Bhargava is a recognized expert on education and civil rights and a frequent speaker and commentator in the national media. Prior to joining LDF, Bhargava worked as a staff attorney at the New York City Department of Education and as an investment banker to several education companies. She also clerked in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Bhargava earned her J.D. from Columbia Law School and B.A. from Harvard College.

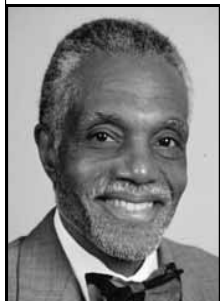


**Derek Black** is an Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Education Rights Center at Howard University School of Law. Prior to teaching, Black was an attorney for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, where he practiced racial diversity, educational adequacy, higher education and desegregation law. He continues to participate with the Lawyers' Committee as *pro bono* counsel. Professor Black is author of various law review articles focusing on racial and gender equity in education, the right to education under state law, and the intentional discrimination standard in equal protection. He co-authored the Howard Civil Rights Clinic's amicus brief before the Supreme Court in *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District*. Black earned his J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and B.A. from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

***PARTICIPANTS***



**John Charles Boger** is the Dean and Wade Edwards Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law. He formerly was Deputy Director of the UNC Center for Civil Rights, working with Director Julius L. Chambers to encourage innovative civil rights research, train a new generation of civil rights attorneys and address pressing civil rights issues in North Carolina and throughout the southeast. Dean Boger, a former assistant counsel with the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. has represented parties and *amici* in various school resource/finance cases in Connecticut and North Carolina. Boger also is chair of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council. Boger earned his J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law, M.Div. from Yale University and B.A. from Duke University.



**John Brittain** is the former Chief Counsel and Deputy Director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Prior to joining the Lawyers' Committee, Brittain spent nearly 30 years as a legal educator, serving as the first African American tenured professor of law at the University of Connecticut School of Law, and as both a tenured professor and dean of Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. Brittain is a specialist in school desegregation and a lead attorney in the landmark *Sheff v. O'Neill* school desegregation case filed in 1989. He has served as national President of the Lawyers' Guild and has undertaken several international human rights investigations. Brittain is currently a visiting professor at David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia. Brittain earned his J.D. and B.A. from Howard University.



**Lisa Chavez** is a Research Analyst at the Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity and Diversity at Berkeley Law School., where she conducts research on school desegregation and minority access to higher education. Chavez also is a lecturer in UC Berkeley's Chicano Studies program where she teaches an upper division course on Latinos and the education system. She received her Ph.D. at the University of California. Since completing her doctoral program, Chavez has worked in a variety of research settings, including WestEd and UC Berkeley's Office of Student Research. Immediately prior to joining the Warren Institute, Chavez worked at the Center for Latino Policy Research at UC Berkeley where she led a team of graduate students on a study of college preparation issues among Latinos in the San Francisco Bay Area.



**Derek Douglas** is the Special Assistant to the President for Urban Affairs. Prior to his appointment in February 2009, Douglas was Washington Counsel to New York Governor David A. Paterson and Director of Governor Paterson's Washington, D.C. Office. Douglas served as the Governor's chief architect for federal policy and oversaw the development and advocacy on economic and urban policy issues for the State of New York. Before his work with Gov. Paterson, Douglas was the Associate Director of Economic Policy at the Center for American Progress, where he founded and served as Director of the Economic Mobility Program. Douglas formerly served as Counsel at O'Melveny & Myers LLP and an Assistant Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. He earned his J.D. from Yale Law School and his B.A. from the University of Michigan.



**Susan Eaton** is the Research Director at the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School. Her scholarly and research interests include the causes and cures for unequal opportunities for racial, ethnic and linguistic minorities in the United States, with a focus on the challenges of schooling and childrearing in high-poverty, urban neighborhoods. Eaton has lectured, studied and written about related subjects for two decades as a journalist, scholar and activist across the United States, in South Africa and in Japan. Her most recent book is *The Children In Room E4* (2007, Algonquin). Eaton holds a Ed.D. from Harvard University, where she was Assistant Director at the Project on School Desegregation.

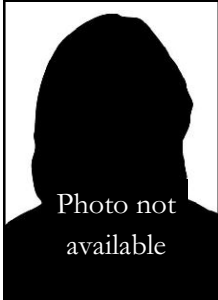
***PARTICIPANTS***



**Lia Epperson** is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Maryland School of Law for the 2009-2010 academic year. Previously, she was a professor of law at Santa Clara Law School faculty in 2005. Her scholarship focuses on constitutional interpretations of educational equity and the role of public schools and universities in making manifest the Constitution's promise of equal opportunity. Prior to entering academia, Epperson directed the education law and policy group of the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund (LDF). Epperson began her legal career as an attorney with Morrison & Foerster LLP in Palo Alto, CA. Epperson also serves as a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, focusing on federal civil rights enforcement of educational policies and practices. She received her J.D. from Stanford University and her B.A. from Harvard University.



**Julie Fernandes** is a Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Education, Civil Rights Division. Prior to joining the DOJ, Fernandes was a principal in The Raben Group's Health and Education and Constitution and Justice Practice Groups and a senior policy analyst and special counsel for the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund. Fernandes previously worked for the DOJ as a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division and as counsel to the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights working on legal and policy issues related to voting rights, international human rights, and police misconduct. Fernandes also served as Special Assistant to President Bill Clinton on the White House Domestic Policy Council. Fernandes received both her J.D. and B.A. degrees from the University of Chicago.



**Denise Forte** is the Education Coordinator for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Her legislative responsibilities include juvenile justice, youth development, after-school programs, child nutrition programs, and education research. Prior to joining the Committee, Denise spent six years in the Office of Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA03) where her last position was Legislative Director. Denise started her career on Capitol Hill as a congressional fellow with the Women's Research and Education Institute in Representative Scott's office after working 8 years in the information technology industry. Denise received her B.S. in Computer Science from Duke University and a M.A. in Public Policy with a concentration in Women's Studies from George Washington University.



**Brian Gilmore** is Director of the Fair Housing Clinic at Howard University School of Law. Prior to joining the Fair Housing Clinic in 2005, Gilmore was an associate at the firm of Robert A. Ades and Associates. Gilmore has also served as a Staff Attorney at the Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Legislative Advocate at the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless, and Staff Attorney and Managing Attorney at Neighborhood Legal Services Program. Gilmore's prior teaching experience includes serving as an adjunct faculty member at Catholic University's Metropolitan College and visiting lecturer at several colleges and universities. Gilmore received his undergraduate degree from Frostburg State College and law degree from David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia.



**David Hinojosa** is a Staff Attorney with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the nation's premier Latino civil rights legal advocacy organization. He has presented on litigation and policy issues concerning school finance, desegregation, affirmative action and bilingual education in a number of local, state, and national forums, including: the National Council of Urban Education Associations, New York University School of Law, the Southern Education Foundation, St. Mary's University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, the University of Texas at Austin School of Law, the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, the Texas Association of Bilingual Educators, and the Administrative Leadership Institute. Hinojosa earned his J.D. from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law and his B.A. from New Mexico State University.



***PARTICIPANTS***



**David J. Johns** is the Senior Education Policy Advisor to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Prior to working for Chairman Harkin, Johns served under the leadership of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. His policy portfolio includes issues affecting low-income and minority students; immigrants and English language learners; native populations; education technology; literacy; parent and community engagement, and neglected youth and foster children. Johns has served as a Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Fellow in the office of Congressman Charles B. Rangel. Johns is also the founder of DJJ Consulting, a boutique consulting firm committed to increasing underserved students' access to and quality of educational opportunities and experiences. A former teacher in New York City, Johns earned his M.A. and B.A. from Columbia University.



**Bill Magnotta** is the Program Manager for Connecticut's interdistrict magnet schools and interdistrict cooperative grant programs. He has worked with the Connecticut State Department of Education for over 37 years and currently serves in the Bureau of School Choice. His responsibilities include the development of new magnet schools, monitoring of state funded interdistrict magnet schools and providing technical assistance to school district administrators and school personnel. He is a member of the Executive Board for the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education and the President-Elect for Magnet Schools of America. He received his B.A. and M.A. from Central Connecticut State University.



**Carmel Martin** was confirmed as Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development at the Department of Education in May 2009. In this position, she serves as a senior adviser to Secretary Arne Duncan on K-12 and postsecondary education policy and oversees the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, which coordinates policy and budget activities with the Department's principal offices, as well as with the Office of Management and Budget, the House and Senate education committees, and state education agencies. Prior to joining the Department, Martin served as general counsel and chief education adviser to Senator Edward Kennedy for his work on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. She received her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law and a Master's from the LBJ School of Public Affairs.



**Demetria McCain** is the Director of Advocacy & Education for the Inclusive Communities Project (ICP). McCain is responsible for training ICP's staff on fair housing, civil rights and general housing laws and issues while overseeing ICP's fair housing counseling services. She provides guidance to ICP's Fair Housing Investigations program, and coordinates research and public education campaigns while responding to local, regional, and state housing and land use decisions and policies that have the potential to serve as opportunities for or impediments to fair housing. Prior to ICP, McCain served as Staff Attorney/Equal Justice Works Fellow at the National Housing Law Project and as Staff Attorney at the Neighborhood Legal Services Program of D.C. She is a graduate of New York University, Brooklyn College and Howard University School of Law.



**Roslyn Arlin Mickelson** is a Professor of Sociology, Public Policy, Information Technology, and Women's Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her research focuses on the political economy of schooling and school reform, particularly the relationships among race, ethnicity, gender, class, and educational processes and outcomes. Mickelson has published on minority educational issues, desegregation, educating homeless children, social science and the law, gender and education, and educational policy. With funding from the National Science Foundation and the Ford Foundation, Mickelson investigated school reform in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools from 1988 to 2008, chronicling the consequences of the district's assignment policy. She taught in an urban high school before she received a Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1984.

***PARTICIPANTS***



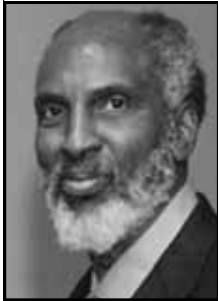
**Gary Orfield** is Professor of Education, Law, Political Science and Urban Planning at UCLA. Orfield focuses on the study of civil rights, education policy, urban policy, and minority opportunity. He was co-founder and director of the Harvard Civil Rights Project and is now co-director of the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA. Orfield’s central interest has been the development and implementation of social policy, with a central focus on the impact of policy on equal opportunity for success in American society. He has been involved in the development of governmental policy and served as expert witness in several dozen court cases related to his research. Orfield has been called to give testimony in civil rights suits by the United States Department of Justice and many other civil rights, legal services, and educational organizations.



**Myron Orfield** is a Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota Law School, Executive Director of the Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota Law School, non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institute and an affiliate faculty member at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. He teaches and writes in the fields of civil rights, state and local government, state and local finance, land use, questions of regional governance and the legislative process. In 1990, Orfield was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives, where he served five terms, and to the Minnesota Senate in 2000, where he served one term. There he was the architect of a series of important changes in land use, fair housing, and school and local government aid programs. Orfield graduated from the University of Minnesota and has a J.D. from the University of Chicago.



**Dennis Parker** is the Director of the ACLU National Office’s Racial Justice Program (RJP). Concentrating on the school-to-prison pipeline that funnels children of color from the educational system into the criminal justice system, racial profiling, affirmative action, indigent representation and felon enfranchisement, the RJP seeks to remove barriers to equal opportunity for communities of color through litigation, public education, community organizing and legislation. Prior to joining the ACLU, he was the Chief of the Civil Rights Bureau of the Office of the New York State Attorney. Parker also worked for fourteen years at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund where he litigated scores of cases involving elementary and secondary education, affirmative action in higher education and equal educational opportunity.



**John A. Powell** is the Executive Director of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at The Ohio State University and the Gregory H. Williams Chair in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the University’s Michael E. Moritz College of Law. Professor Powell has written extensively on structural racism, racial justice and regionalism, concentrated poverty and urban sprawl, opportunity based housing, voting rights, affirmative action, racial and ethnic identity, spirituality and social justice and the needs of citizens in a democratic society. Previously, he founded and directed the Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota School of Law. Professor Powell earned his J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley and his B.A. from Stanford University.



**Sean Reardon** is an Associate Professor of Education and (by courtesy) Sociology at Stanford University. His research includes the effects of educational policy on educational and social inequality, the causes, patterns, and consequences of residential and school segregation, and applied statistical methods for educational research. Reardon’s research examines the relative contribution of family, school, and neighborhood environments to racial/ethnic and socioeconomic achievement disparities. His research develops applied quantitative methods for examining variation in treatment effects and for measuring aspects of school and neighborhood context. Reardon teaches graduate courses in applied statistical methods, emphasizing the application of experimental and quasi-experimental methods to the investigation of issues of educational policy and practice.

***PARTICIPANTS***



**Roberto Rodriguez** serves on the White House Domestic Policy Council as Special Assistant to the President for Education Policy. Prior to joining the Domestic Policy Council, Rodriguez was Senior Education Adviser to U.S. Senator Edward M. Kennedy on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. His duties included legislative, policy, budget, and appropriations work on early childhood, elementary and secondary education, with a focus on the No Child Left Behind Act, Head Start, child care and the education of special populations. Rodriguez also served as Senior Education Specialist at the National Council for La Raza, where he engaged in applied research and policy analysis of federal and state education reform issues and facilitated the development and evaluation of NCLR's community based education programs.



**Katy Royce** is the Executive Director of Fund for OPEN Society (OPEN) Minnesota. Royce was previously OPEN's Midwest Director. In 2008, OPEN began work in Minnesota and is now recognized as a force for integration and regional equity by community members, organizations and institutions working in the field, including key elected officials. Royce remains instrumental to the success of the West Metro Education Program, a voluntary consortium of thirteen urban and suburban school districts pursuing integration in the Minneapolis metropolitan area. Royce also spent over fifteen years as Executive Director of the Community Stabilization Project, during which time she built the strongest voice of low-income tenants and people of color in the Twin Cities area. Royce earned her B.A. from St. Norbert College.



**Jocelyn Samuels** is a Senior Counselor in Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice. Prior to joining the DOJ, Samuels served as Vice President for Education and Employment at the National Women's Law Center, where she focused on barriers to the advancement of women and girls at school and in the workplace. At the National Women's Law Center, she participated in litigation, advocacy and public education around non-discrimination in athletics; fair treatment in career education programs and non-traditional fields like math and science; equal pay for equal work; and development of fundamental legal principles of equal opportunity. Samuels also has served as Labor Counsel to Senator Edward M. Kennedy and as a senior policy attorney at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where she specialized in issues of sex and race discrimination.



**Kurt Schmoke** was appointed Dean of Howard University School of Law in January 2003. A partner in the international law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, Schmoke served as Mayor of Baltimore City from 1987 to 1999, and was the Maryland State's Attorney from 1982 to 1987. As mayor, Schmoke initiated a number of programs in the areas of housing, education, public health and economic development. President George Bush awarded him the national Literacy Award for his efforts to promote adult literacy, and President Bill Clinton praised his programs to improve public housing and enhance community economic development. Schmoke's other public service includes his appointment as Assistant Director of White House Domestic Policy Staff under President Jimmy Carter. Schmoke earned his B.A. from Yale University and his J.D. from Harvard Law School.



**Don Senti** is Superintendent of the School District of Clayton, Missouri. An educator and administrator for 36 years, he also served as superintendent of the Parkway School District. As chief executive officer of Clayton schools, Senti directs and coordinates the administrative activities of the school district in accordance with professional standards and Board of Education policies and directives. Senti is the President of the Board of Directors of the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation (VICC), the administrative body for the St. Louis Voluntary Transfer Program. He holds a B.S. from the University of Kansas, a M.S. from the University of Kansas and a Doctorate in Education Administration from St. Louis University.



***PARTICIPANTS***



**Theodore Shaw** is the former Director-Counsel and President of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF). Shaw is currently a Professor at Columbia Law School, where he teaches civil procedure and constitutional law. At LDF, Shaw was involved in numerous landmark cases, including lead counsel in a coalition that represented African-American and Latino students in the University of Michigan undergraduate affirmative action admissions case. Shaw has also worked as a Trial Attorney in the Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., litigating civil rights cases throughout the country at the trial and appellate levels and at the U.S. Supreme Court. Shaw received his J.D. from Columbia University and B.A. from Wesleyan University.



**Amy Stuart Wells** is a Professor of Sociology and Education and the Director of the Center for Understanding Race and Education (CURE) at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her work has focused on educational policies that shape and constrain opportunities for students of color, such as school desegregation, school choice, charter schools and tracking. Wells was the principal investigator of a five-year study of adults who attended racially mixed high schools and co-author of a book from this study, *Both Sides Now: The Story of Desegregation's Graduates* (2009, UC Press), with Jennifer Jellison Holme, Anita Tijerina Revilla, and Awo Korantemaa Atanda. Wells is the author and editor of numerous other publications on issues of race and education. She currently is directing a study of metro migration patterns and how they relate to racial segregation and school boundary lines.



**Bill Taylor** is a lawyer, teacher and writer in the fields of Civil Rights and Education. He practices law in Washington, D.C., specializing in litigation and other forms of advocacy on behalf of low income and minority children. He began his legal career as an attorney on the staff of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund where he was lead counsel for black children in several major school desegregation cases. He has long been a leader of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and currently serves as Vice Chairman. Working with the Leadership Conference in 1982, he played a major role as a legislative strategist, bringing about the extension and strengthening of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Taylor was a founder and now serves as the Acting Chair of the Citizens' Commission on Civil Rights. He also serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law School.



**Phil Tegeler** is the Executive Director of Poverty and Race Research Action Council (PRRAC), a civil rights policy organization based in Washington, D.C. PRRAC's mission is to help connect advocates with social scientists working on race and poverty issues, and to promote a research-based advocacy strategy on structural inequality issues. Presently, PRRAC is pursuing project-specific work in the areas of housing, education, and health, focusing on the importance of "place" and the continuing social consequences of historical patterns of housing segregation. Before coming to PRRAC, Tegeler was an attorney with the Connecticut ACLU, where he was Legal Director from 1997-2003, and worked on the *Sheff v. O'Neill* school equity case, several major housing desegregation cases, and other institutional reform litigation. Tegeler is a graduate of the Columbia Law School.



**Pat Todd** is the Executive Director for Student Assignment for the Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville, Kentucky. Todd also has served as a classroom teacher, a Title I resource teacher and Director of School Restructuring. As the Executive Director for Student Assignment, Todd has been involved in three legal challenges in federal court to a student assignment plan for desegregation of schools. The third of these challenges, *Meredith v. Jefferson County Board of Education*, was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in 2006. Since receiving the decision and guidance of the Supreme Court, Todd has led a district team for the development of a new student assignment plan to promote and support diversity in the public schools.



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**THE HOSTS**

**N**AACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. is America's legal counsel on issues of race, moving our nation toward a society that fulfills the promise of equality for all Americans since the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Brown*. Through advocacy and litigation, LDF's education sector focuses on school integration and educational equity. [www.naacpldf.org](http://www.naacpldf.org)

**M**exican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, often described as the "law firm of the Latino community", promotes equality and justice through litigation, advocacy, public policy and community education in the areas of employment, immigrants' rights, voting rights, education and language rights. [www.maldef.org](http://www.maldef.org)

**A**CLU Racial Justice Program aims to preserve and extend the constitutional rights of people of color. It is committed to combating racism in all forms through litigation, community organizing and training, legislative initiatives and public education. [www.aclu.org/racial-justice](http://www.aclu.org/racial-justice)

**P**overty & Race Research Action Council is a policy organization convened by major civil rights and anti-poverty groups. PRRAC promotes a research-based advocacy strategy on issues of structural racial inequality. [www.prrac.org](http://www.prrac.org)

**L**eadership Conference on Civil Rights is the nation's largest civil rights coalition, consisting of nearly 200 national organizations representing persons of color, women, children, labor unions, individuals with disabilities, older Americans and major civil liberties and human rights groups. LCCR has coordinated national lobbying efforts on behalf of every major civil rights law since 1957. [www.civilrights.org](http://www.civilrights.org)

**C**itizens' Commission on Civil Rights is a bipartisan organization that monitors federal civil rights policies and practices. CCCR is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity in education, employment and housing for all peoples. [www.cccr.org](http://www.cccr.org)

**C**ivil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA generates new research in social science and law on the critical issues of civil rights and equal opportunity for racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. CRP has commissioned more than 400 studies, published 14 books, and issued numerous reports from authors at universities and research centers across the county. [www.civilrightsproject.ucla.edu](http://www.civilrightsproject.ucla.edu)

**C**harles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice at Harvard Law School is dedicated to breaking down the structural impediments to social, political and economic membership for people who live in the United States. CHHRJ places emphases upon closing the opportunity gap for children who live in neighborhoods of concentrated disadvantage, redirecting the pipeline that funnels children of color into prison, and creating pathways home for people returning to their communities after incarceration. [www.charleshamiltonhouston.org](http://www.charleshamiltonhouston.org)

**C**enter for Civil Rights at UNC School of Law is committed to the advancement of civil rights and social justice, especially in the American South, through litigation, research and advocacy. The Center's initiatives focus on education, housing and community development, economic justice and voting rights. [www.law.unc.edu/centers/civilrights](http://www.law.unc.edu/centers/civilrights)

**K**irwan Institute for the Study of Race & Ethnicity at The Ohio State University works to deepen the understanding of the causes and consequences of racial and ethnic hierarchy and disparity. Kirwan's ultimate goal is to stimulate and facilitate transformative change to bring about a society that is fair and just for all people. [www.kirwaninstitute.org](http://www.kirwaninstitute.org)

**I**nstitute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota Law School investigates the ways that policies and practices disproportionately affect people of color and the disadvantaged. IRP's work aims to ensure that all people have access to opportunity and to assist communities to develop in ways that both promote equal access to opportunity and help maintain regional stability. [www.irpumn.org](http://www.irpumn.org)

**C**hief Justice Warren Institute on Race, Ethnicity and Diversity at Berkeley Law School produces research, policy prescriptions and curricular innovation on issues of racial and ethnic justice in California and the nation. The Institute seeks to build bridges connecting the worlds of research and civic action and policy debate so that each informs the others, while preserving the independence, quality and credibility of the academic enterprise. [www.law.berkeley.edu/ewi](http://www.law.berkeley.edu/ewi)

**E**ducation Rights Center at Howard University School of Law promotes equal educational opportunities for low-income, rural and minority students by studying indicators of inequality. The Center's activities include empirical research, legal analysis and engagement with stakeholder communities and policymakers. [www.educationrightscenter.org](http://www.educationrightscenter.org)

**F**air Housing Clinical Program at Howard University School of Law, founded with grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, serves as a national model for clinical education programs. The clinic offers a fair housing legal curricula that trains and educates law students and lawyers about fair housing rights and obligations. [www.howardfairhousing.org](http://www.howardfairhousing.org)

**C**enter for Understanding Race and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University serves as an intellectual home for TC faculty and students conducting research and outreach activities related to the ongoing salience of race in educational institutions. CURE focuses on the relationship between changing demographics, racial and ethnic segregation, and the distribution of educational opportunities across school district boundaries as well as within districts and schools.

**E**ducation and the Public Interest Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder partners with various other centers to advance and reform current education policy. These centers provide a variety of audiences, both academic and public, with information, analysis, and insight to further democratic deliberation regarding educational policies. [www.epicpolicy.org](http://www.epicpolicy.org)