Brown Vs. Board of Education

By:
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Q&A

What caused Linda Brown to become famous?

- She was the first African American to be integrated into a white school.
- Her parents filed for a lawsuit soon after discovering white students within the community had been attending a near-by school, while black students had been bused to a school several miles away.
- In outrage Brown’s parents confronted the Board of Education fighting for their daughters right to attend the near-by school in which the white students attended.
- Brown’s parents also believed that the segregation among the students had a “harmful affect on the education of minority children.” (Posnick-Goodwin, 7)
• How did her enrollment affect the lives of the white community?
  – Some viewed this occurrence with acceptance, while others viewed it in a more negative manner.
  – The whites with the more negative view protested in outrage, prohibiting their children from going to school for the mere thought of a black child coming in contact with their own, scared them.
  – When black integration became more wide-spread, whites began to take a more violent approach to the situation. Soon enough “federal marshals had to escort African American students through unruly mobs…” (Posnick-Goodwin, 7)
Q&A

• How did her enrollment affect the lives of the black community?
  – Most of the black community saw Brown’s enrollment as an opportunity to regain their rights as equals.
  – Soon after Linda Brown was enrolled, other African Americans within the community began to enroll their own children (almost like a chain reaction).
  – Most figured that this occurrence would finally state the end to segregation since same education seemed to symbolize equality as a citizen.
  – Instead of this occurring, white citizens protested in outrage. And even after the blacks were enrolled, they were separated into different classes dependent on race.
Remedial Courses
(courses used to help students overcome deficiencies)
(Chart One)

Minorities Disproportionately Placed in Remedial Courses
Percent of students taking remedial classes in 1994:

- American Indians: 35%
- blacks: 31%
- Hispanics: 24%
- whites: 15%
- Asians: 15%

http://www.nea.org/brownvboard/images/remedial.jpg
Minority Shortage

(Chart Two)

http://www.nea.org/brownvboard/images/minorityteacherstudent.jpg
Chart one: This chart represents the different percentages of students that took remedial classes in the year of 1994. The majority of students were American Indians at 35%, while the minority were Whites and Asians both at 15%. The majority of students represents the students who were in most need of help and the minority represents the students who were in the least need of help.

Chart two: This chart represents the number of students compared to the number of teachers according to ethnicity. The dark blue represents the teachers and the light blue represents the students. The majority in both divisions is the white ethnicity while the minority for both is the Native American/Native Alaskan ethnicity.
Opinion

Shaun: That segregation was wrong to begin with and that what they did to the African Americans was wrong, when the African Americans started to go to the white schools.

Kady: I believe that the whites were very cruel towards the blacks, in the sense of equal rights as citizens. A person should not be pre-judged by their skin color or classified as a different species. It was wrong for blacks to have to go through such hardships and to have so many deficiencies. The whites were wrong for their actions, but we must remember that the blacks were not the only victims, sometimes the whites turned out to be the victims (such as the example Denise gave in her interview).
Opinion on Segregation Today

- Shaun: In today’s world there is still a lot of segregation. Different races live in different places. There are many schools that only have certain races at their school because of the location of their homes and the people they are with.

- Kady: I believe that segregation does still exist among Americans today. Certain races tend to cling together in society and in the sense of location. This is because they tend to feel more comfortable. One may see this when looking at a map of ethnicity. There are also different types of segregation today, including: popularity, income, and size. But, yes segregation does still exist in society today.
Works Cited

Magazine Article:
- Posnick-Goodwin, Sherry. “Tearing down the walls that divide us.” California Educator April 2004: 7-19

Internet websites:
- http://www.nea.org/brownvboard/images/minorityteacherstudent.jpg
- http://www.nea.org/brownvboard/images/remedial.jpg

Interviews:
- Paul Moreland, May 1, 2004
- Denise Schwartz, May 9, 2004