



OUR FOCUS

Challenge: New Jersey's Public Schools are among the most segregated in the nation. Hundreds of Thousands of Latino, Black and White Students attend schools lacking Diversity. The State of New Jersey is in flagrant violation of the law and the State Constitution.

Ending Segregation: May 17, 2018 a coalition of civil rights, faith, and social justice groups, along with individual parents, filed a lawsuit to force the State of New Jersey to take steps to end segregation. The suit is known as Latino Action Network vs. the State of New Jersey.

Fixing the Problem: The lawsuit calls on the court to take a series of initial steps to address segregation.

Aims of the Lawsuit

*** **Strike Down Laws that Require Students to attend Schools in the town of residency. This applies to Charter Schools as well.**

*** **Force the State Department of Education to develop a plan to assign students in a way that Encourages Racial and Ethnic Integration.**

Means to Achieve Integration

*** **Creation of Regional Magnet Schools to Encourage Voluntary Enrollment Across Municipal Boundaries.**

*** **Consolidation of School Districts along Regional Lines to Achieve Greater Racial, Ethnic and Socioeconomic Integration.**

*** **Allow School Districts to Accept Students from other Municipalities, Allowing for a Controlled System of School Choice.**

Highlights from the School Desegregation Lawsuit

"This municipally-based system of school districts interacts with longstanding state practices that have fostered and enabled residential segregation to institutionalize school segregation."

"The dynamics of segregation thus produce a two-way system of racial stereotyping, stigma, fear and hostility that obscures individuality and denies all concerned the recognized benefits of diversity in education."

"New Jersey is one of the segregated public-school systems in the nation. It is the 6th most segregated for Black students. It is the 7th most segregated for Latinos."

"The Commissioner of Education has the comprehensive legal authority and indeed is legally required, to cure any constitutional violation by any means necessary, including by promptly developing and implementing a comprehensive statewide plan to desegregate and diversify New Jersey's public schools."

<https://salvationandsocialjustice.info>

<http://latinoaction.blogspot.com>

<https://www.inclusiveschoolsnj.org>

<http://theinclusionproject.rutgers.edu>