

# U.S. public schools trend toward resegregation

Continued from page 1A

regation; segregation is also severe in smaller central cities and in the suburban rings of large metros;

- There has been a substantial slippage toward segregation in most of the states that were highly desegregated in 1991. The most integrated state for African-Americans in 2001 was Kentucky. The most desegregated states for Latinos are in the Northwest;

- American public schools are now only 60 percent white nationwide and nearly one fourth of U.S. students are in states with a majority of nonwhite students. However, except in the South and Southwest, most White students have little contact with students of color;

- Asians are the most integrated and by far are the most likely to attend multiracial schools with a significant presence of three or more racial groups and

- The vast majority of intensely segregated minority schools [90 to 100 percent minority] face conditions of concentrated poverty, which are powerfully related to unequal educational opportunity.

The most segregated states, as measured by black exposure to white students and the percentage of African-Americans enrolled in majority white schools, are: New York, Michigan, Illinois and California. In New York and California, only one black student in seven was in a majority White school and the typical black student was in a school with 82 percent nonwhite students in New York and 77 percent in California.

Although frequent references are made to the case technically called *Brown et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka et al.*, there was more than that one court decision. On May 17, 1954, the court ruled: "We conclude that in

the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal. Therefore, we hold that the actions have been brought are, by reason of the segregation complained of, deprived of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment." The decision effectively overturned the court's 1896 ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which sanctioned separate but equal facilities.

It was in 1955 when the *Brown* case was again before the court over failure to comply with the court's order. It was then that the Supreme Court ruled that schools had to be desegregated "with all deliberate speed." In 1979, the *Brown* case was reopened when a group of parents, including the former Linda Brown, for whom the case is titled, charged that the school board in Topeka still refused "to fully carry out" the 1954 court decision. An appeals court agreed with them, saying, "Topeka has not sufficiently countered the effects of both the momentum of its pre-*Brown* segregation and its subsequent acts in the 1960s." That order was not lifted until 1999.

What are collectively referred to as the "Brown" case involved four school districts. Two of them were rural - Clarendon County, S.C. and Prince Edward County, Va. - and two were urban - Topeka, Kansas and Wilmington, Del.

The Harvard study, led by Professor Gary Orfield, perhaps the preeminent desegregation expert in the country, observed: "For many years now integration has been the greatest in parts of the South and the most intense segregation has been in the great metropolitan

areas of the North. Now black communities in every part of the country are experiencing increasing segregation, though nowhere near the level of pre-civil rights South."

Charts included in the study show that the percentage of African-Americans attending majority white schools increased slowly the first decade, moving from none in 1954 to 2.3 percent a decade later.

"The period of the civil rights revolution produced revolutionary changes in Southern schools from 1964 to 1972 as Congress and the Johnson Administration committed themselves to an unprecedented effort to enforce civil rights in the South," the report notes. "Change came with the passage and implementation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which forbade discrimination in any institution receiving federal aid and as the Supreme Court greatly tightened the constitutional requirements to be enforced by federal courts."

Black enrollment in majority white schools reached its peak in 1988, with 43.5 percent enrolled. Over the next seven years, however, that percentage has declined each year, dropping to 30.2 percent in 2001. The authors attribute the decline to a series of Supreme Court decisions between 1991 and 1995 limiting school desegregation and authorizing a return to segregated neighborhood schools.

Judging by the percentage of African-Americans in schools where 90 to 100 percent of the students are of color, the most segregated states, in order, are: Michigan (62.7 percent), Illinois (61.0 percent), New York (60.8), Maryland (52.1), New Jersey (50.8), Pennsylvania (48.1), Wisconsin (44.7), Alabama (44.3), Mississippi (43.8), Louisiana (42.3), Missouri

(40.2), California (37.6), Texas (37.3), Georgia (36.5), Ohio (36.0), Connecticut (32.0), Florida (31.5), Massachusetts (25.3), Arkansas (21.5) and Indiana (20.9).

When looking at three yardsticks for measuring school desegregation - percentage of blacks in majority white schools, percentage of blacks in 90 to 100 percent minority schools and black exposure to white students - Kentucky ranks tops in all categories.

**THE CHARLOTTE POST** (USPS 965-500) is published weekly for \$40.00 per year by the Charlotte Post Publishing Co., 1531 Camden Rd. Charlotte, NC 28203-4753. Periodicals postage paid at Charlotte, NC. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to **THE CHARLOTTE POST**, PO Box 30144, Charlotte, NC 28230

"Kentucky stands out in the list of the most integrated states for black students," the report says. "It was a state with a history of de jure

segregation and experienced a bitter struggle over the initiation of desegregation in metropolitan Louisville nearly 30 years ago.

**WOMEN & INVESTING:**  
A FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN

WHEN: February 26, 2004, 6:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Wachovia Securities  
4201 Congress Street, Suite 150  
Charlotte, NC 28209

SPEAKER: Michael Manning, Vice President - Institutional Sales  
Federated Investors

SPONSOR: Lillie Hibbler-Britt, Associate Vice President - Investments  
Wachovia Securities

For reservations call Lillie Hibbler-Britt  
704-551-4840 or 1-800-438-4063.

**WACHOVIA SECURITIES**  
Uncommon Wisdom

SECURITIES AND INSURANCE PRODUCTS:  
NOT INSURED BY FDIC OR ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY - MAY LOSE VALUE  
NOT A DEPOSIT OF OR GUARANTEED BY A BANK OR ANY BANK AFFILIATE.  
Wachovia Securities, LLC, member NYSE/SIPC, is a registered broker-dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wachovia Corporation.  
© 2004 Wachovia Securities, LLC. 46521 2/04

**Dr. Kaplan**  
CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

**ACCIDENT & INJURY CENTER**

**WE WANT TO HELP YOU!**

Accidents:  
Automobile • Workman's Comp

Are You Suffering From:  
Sports Injuries • Headaches • Shoulder Pain  
Neck Pain • Low Back Pain • Leg Pains •  
Arthritis ?

Tel. (704) 372-7200

*Visit Us Today!*

2210 North Tryon St. Charlotte, NC 28206  
Hours: 9:00AM - 6:00PM Monday - Friday

2501 Beatties Ford Road Charlotte, NC 28216  
Hours: 9:00AM - 6:00PM Monday - Friday

*Dr. Lawrence Kaplan, D.C.*

**PROFESSIONAL FLOORING**

**MOBLEY'S**

Residential & Commercial  
Carpet Cleaning, Sales & Service

- New Carpet Sales • VCT • Hardwood Flooring
- Ceramic & Marble Tile

**"Holiday Specials"**

New Carpet Installed

Carpet, Pad & Labor  
Only \$16.99 per yd.

**Cleaning**

"2" Rooms & Hallway  
Only \$79.95

**Vinyl Floor**

Congoleum & Armstrong  
Only \$13.99 per yd.

Duct Cleaning Only \$15 "For Your Health" ... Remove the Dust From Your Vents!

**"SPECIALS" Valid With This Ad Only**  
Eddie Mobley, Sr. • Eddie Mobley, Jr.  
Ph: 704-531-0155 • Fax: 704-536-4272

Come Visit Our Showroom  
4930 Albemarle Road  
Charlotte, NC 28205

**Office DEPOT**

Incredible Savings  
**FOR ANY OFFICE**

**\$29** Save \$20  
Reg. \$49.74  
**GIBSON LEATHER TASK CHAIR**  
• One-touch seat-height adjustment  
Black 105-479

Don't Forget Your Chairmat  
Assembly is required.

**2 for \$40**  
OR \$29.68 Each  
**HP PREMIUM PLUS PHOTO PAPER**  
HP's finest photo paper.  
• The look and feel of traditional photo  
4" x 6", Glossy 100-PK 459-865  
8-1/2" x 11" Premium Glossy, 50-PK 216-161

**Office DEPOT.** Offers and prices available in store only. Coupon Code 87964587\*

**The Best Way To Shop For Ink**

**Office DEPOT ink DEPOT** Guaranteed In stock! Large selection Everyday low prices

**FREE** Ream of Office Depot EnviroCopy™ Recycled Paper With Return of SELECT Empty Ink OR Toner Cartridge (563-024, up to a \$3.33 value)

**Office DEPOT.** Excludes Canon and Epson Ink Tanks. One Ream per customer per day. Coupon Code 12871540\*

\*Present this original ad for in-store redemption. Merchandise Card offers good toward additional purchases and cannot be applied to current purchase. Offers cannot be used as a credit card payment. Sorry, coupon offers not valid for contract customers with a store purchase card or procurement card, or for purchases from Tech Depot. Photocopies and mechanical reproductions are not valid. Coupons are not transferable and not for resale. Quantities limited. We reserve the right to limit quantities sold to each customer. Offers expire 2/27/04. Coupons are good for one-time use only, and cannot be combined with any other coupon offers.

**Ask About Our Low Price Guarantee**  
Just Call To Locate the Office Depot Nearest You!  
1-800-GO-DEPOT (1-800-463-3768) or www.officedepot.com

Prices and offers good 2/19/04 through 2/25/04 (unless otherwise noted). Some products and offers may be available in store only. Quantities limited to in-stock items only.