



AMERICAN
CONSTITUTION
SOCIETY FOR
LAW AND POLICY

**Experts on Both Sides Address Major School Desegregation Cases
Before the U.S. Supreme Court, and Present New Data
Demonstrating the Value of Integrated Schools to Minority
Students**

MEDIA ADVISORY

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

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WHAT:

- Discussion of two Supreme Court cases questioning whether the Constitution denies local school districts the authority to voluntarily integrate racially segregated schools.
- [Background materials](#) introducing media sources to *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District* and *Meredith v. Jefferson County Public School*.

WHO:

- **Tomiko Brown-Nagin**, Professor of Law and History, University of Virginia School of Law
- **Douglas N. Harris**, Assistant Professor of Education and Economics, Florida State University
- **Francisco Negrón**, Associate Executive Director and General Counsel, National School Boards Association
- **John Payton**, Partner, WilmerHale
- **Terence J. Pell**, President, Center for Individual Rights
- Moderator, **Philip Tegeler**, Executive Director, Poverty & Race Research Action Council

WHEN: Wednesday, November 29, 2006, 12:00-1:30p.m EST.

WHERE: The Center for American Progress, 10th Floor, 1333 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20005

On December 4, the Supreme Court will hear two challenges to the authority of public school districts to adopt plans aimed at racially integrated schools - one in Louisville, Kentucky and one in Seattle, Washington. Should the Supreme Court side with the plaintiffs in these cases, it may rule that the United States Constitution forbids local

school boards from voluntarily integrating racially segregated schools.

The speakers are experts in the field, including several who represent *amici* in the litigation and one who will describe new research findings based on data collected under the No Child Left Behind Act showing that African-American and Hispanic students learn more in integrated schools. The panelists will present a variety of perspectives on the legal and historical implications of these cases, and their impact on public education, race relations, and the promise of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

This event is co-sponsored by the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy and the Center for American Progress. Lunch will be served at 11:30am. **Members of the media interested in attending the event should contact Ian Millhiser at IMillhiser@ACSLaw.org to confirm their attendance by 5:00pm on Tuesday, November 28.**

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