

Inquiry *in the*
Upper
Midwest 

SCHOOL INTEGRATION

Then & Now

Plessy v. Ferguson

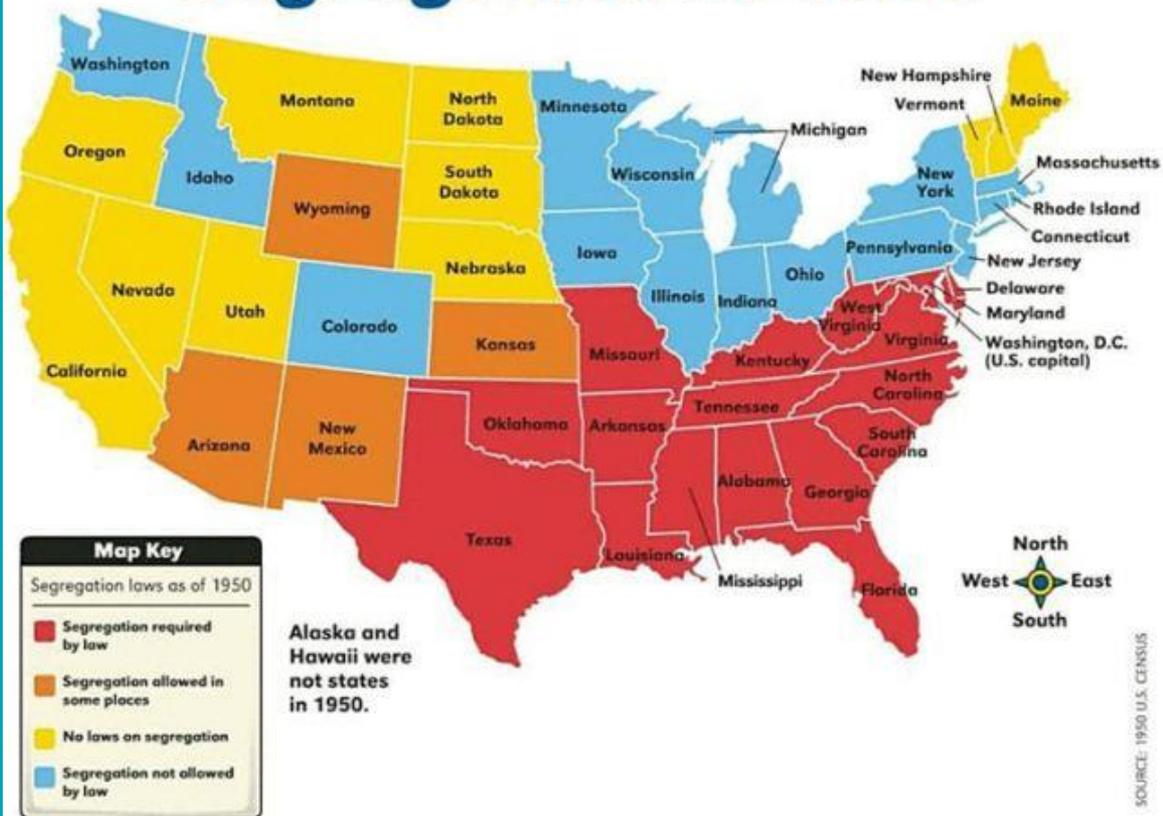
- 1896
- Supreme Court decision made it legal to separate people by race in public spaces, including schools
- “Separate but equal”



At the bus station in Durham, North Carolina 1940

- 17 states + DC had segregation laws
- 16 states had laws banning segregation
- 4 states allowed local government to make laws about segregation
- 11 states had no laws about segregation

Segregation in 1950



WHOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWM

Segregation in the United States, 1950



Brown v. Board

- 1954
- Supreme Court decided it was not legal to separate children in schools by the color of their skin

WHOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWM

Mrs. Nettie Hunt explaining to her daughter Nikie the meaning of the Supreme Court's decision banning school segregation, 1954

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

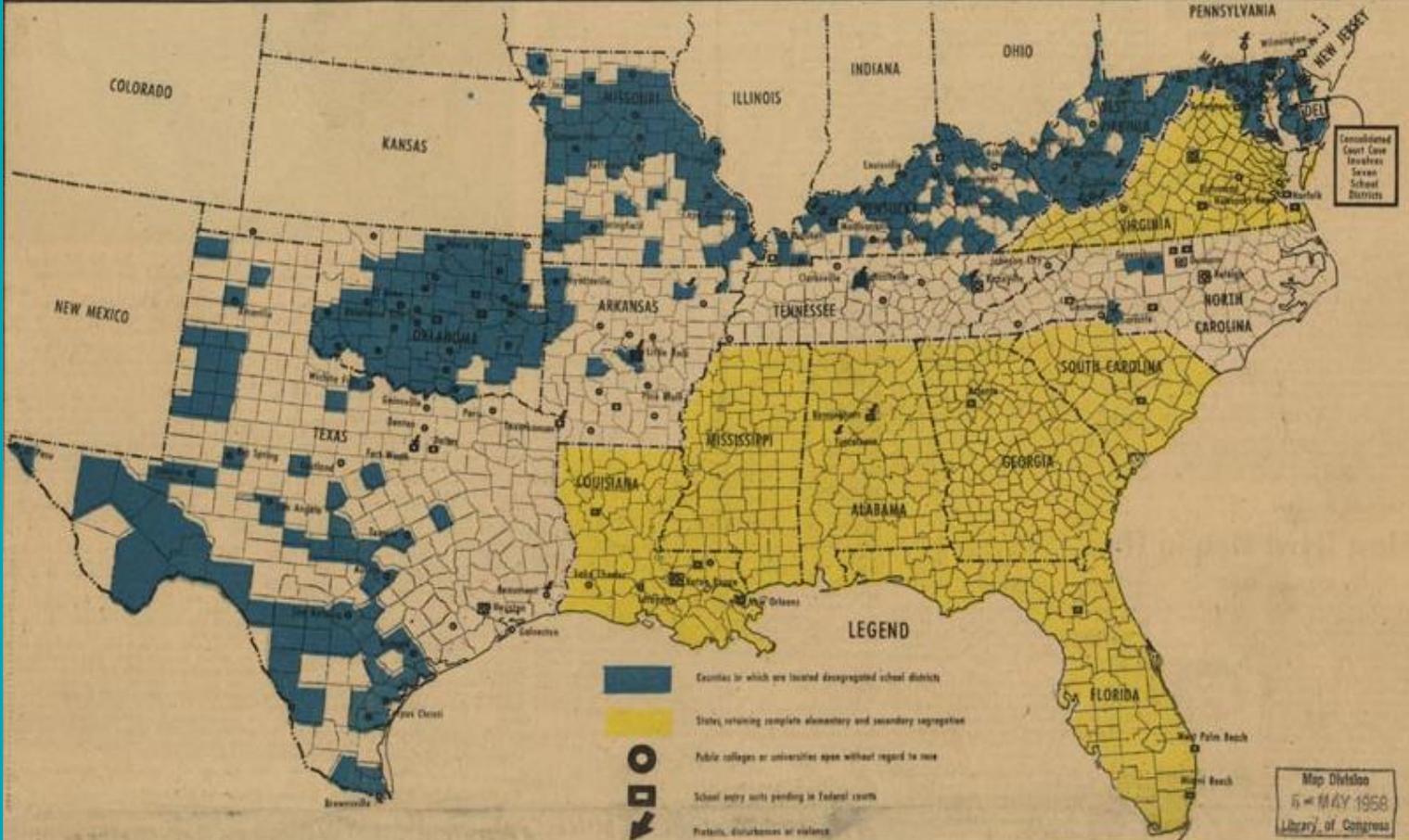
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The *Brown v Board* decision required all US schools to integrate.

How do you imagine school integration worked?

- What were some of the challenges? Why did these challenges exist?
- How much time would it take to integrate schools?

Discuss with a partner. Be prepared to share.



WHOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWM

Segregation in the United States after *Brown v Board*, 1958

PHOTO ANALYSIS

WHOWHATWHENMNVHEREWHYHOWMNVHOWHATWHENMNVHEREWHYHOWMNVHOWHATWHENMNVHEREWHYHOWMNV

In groups, analyze your assigned photo by finishing the following thoughts:

- I see...
- I think...
- I wonder...



E



G



F



A



C



D



B

PHOTO ANALYSIS

WHOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWM

In your groups, work together to predict the chronological order of all 7 photos.

- What information helps you figure out when the photo was taken?
- What information do you need in order to be sure?



1986 *Plessy v. Ferguson*

- The Supreme Court said it was fair to have separate public spaces for black and white people because they were equal. This picture shows a sign at the Greyhound bus station.



1954 *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, KS*

- This Supreme Court decision made it illegal to separate children in schools by the color of their skin.



1956 Clinton, TN

- 12 African American students planned to attend high school in Clinton, TN. There were protests about integrating the school. The National Guard was brought in.





1959 Little Rock, AR

- An African American boy watches a crowd of people marching to Central High School in Arkansas. They were marching to protest against black students going to Central High School.



1963 Alabama

- Governor George Wallace of Alabama blocks entrance into University of Alabama because he did not want integration.



1964 Prince Edward County, VA

- This photo was taken 10 years after the US Supreme Court banned segregation and shows a class of both black and white students.





1964 Washington, DC

- Black students re-enter public schools in Farmville, Virginia. For nearly 5 years, no public schools were available to black students.



1968 *Green v. County School Board of New Kent County, VA*

- Supreme Court decided the 'freedom of choice' plan did not integrate schools. The photo shows white mothers protesting black students who were being bussed to the all-white school.



1971 *Swan v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*

- Supreme Court decides that busses can be used to integrate schools. To make sure schools are integrated, students could be bussed to schools outside their neighborhood.



EXAMINE THE TIMELINE

WHOWHATWHENMNWHEREWHYHOWMNWHOWHATWHENMNWHEREWHYHOWMNWHOWHATWHENMNWHEREWHYHOWMN

- What is the same about these events? What is different?
- What changes have happened because of the *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision?
- How does each photo show support or resistance to school integration?
- 15 years after the *Brown v. Board* decision, did people accept school integration? What do you see in the photos that helps you know?

HOW DOES CHANGE HAPPEN?

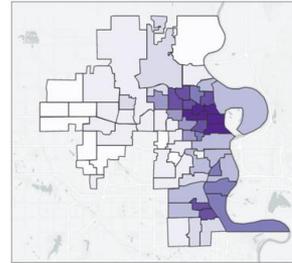
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- What did people **do** to make the change to integrate schools?

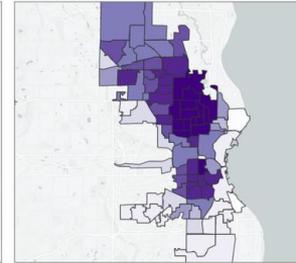
- When did segregation end?
- Does segregation still exist?
- How do you know?

Demographics of school attendance zones

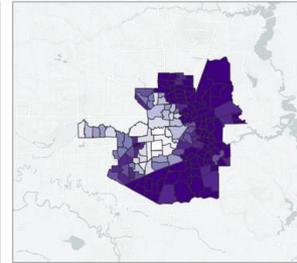
Percent black or Hispanic 0% 50% 100%



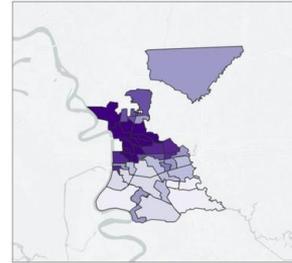
Omaha



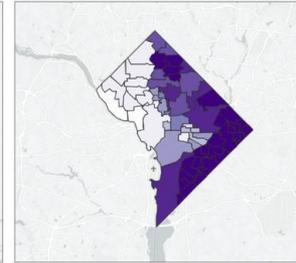
Milwaukee



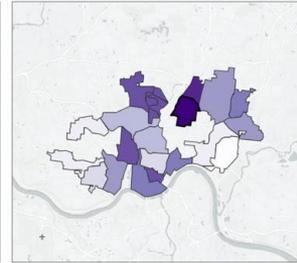
Houston



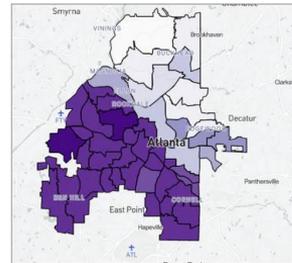
East Baton Rouge



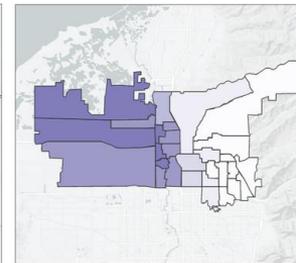
Washington DC



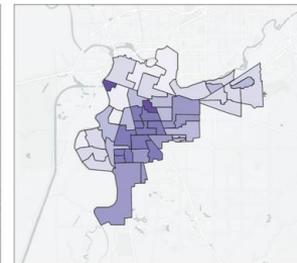
Cincinnati



Atlanta



Salt Lake City



Sacramento

WHOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHOWHATWHENMNOW

Schools in the United States Today

HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?

WHOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWMNOWHATWHENMNOWHEREWHYHOWM

- Are we better off today? Why or why not?
- Have we changed enough? How do we know?
- How do we know when change is necessary?

CREDITS

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