

ards of practice, the number of Negroes in white schools, are of little or no value, and even where these statistics are considered, they are pretty unimpressive 12 years after *Brown v. The Board of Education*.

The continued existence of pervasive segregation within school systems can be traced in large part to the use of freedom-of-choice as a means of accomplishing desegregation.

Southern school superintendents readily admit that white children will not choose Negro schools. Extraordinary pressures exist in many communities which inhibit Negro children from choosing white schools.

The ugly events of this past September in Grenada, events which I personally witnessed, carry a message to Negro homes throughout the South.

Aside from violence, there is the omnipresent threat of loss of jobs, of homes, to countless Negro families, who choose to do no more than exercise their constitutional rights.

The failure of the white, coupled with the fear of the Negro, will undoubtedly insure the continued existence of the Negro school so long as freedom-of-choice is relied on by the Office of Education as the primary technique for accomplishing desegregation.

The Negro community cannot in good conscience be expected to assume the burden of desegregating schools. The burden must be shifted to school authorities. They alone created segregated schools. They must assume the responsibility of desegregating their schools.

If we accept the thesis of title VI, that Federal moneys cannot be used to support segregated institutions, a thesis that I feel is compelled by the Constitution, the Office of Education is subject to criticism for doing too little, rather than too much.

The criticism we have heard from Southern whites is simply not supportable in fact.

Nine Mississippi school districts which at this time are considered to be in compliance with title VI have not one Negro in a formerly white school, not one white in a Negro school, and no faculty desegregation.

For the record, they include Bay Saint Louis, Franklin County, Jones County, Lowndes County, Monroe County, Pawnatuck, Union County, Wayne County, and Union Special Municipal School District.

In fact, most, if not all, school districts found to be in compliance with title VI would be required to do more, if they were brought into court.

I find it ironic that the Office of Education has not been defended by the Southern States, for the Office of Education has added respectability and credibility to the continued existence of segregated practices in countless southern school communities.

The Congress has an obligation, and I sincerely hope that the work of this subcommittee will lead the way, to enact further legislation which will provide funds and a mandate to the Office of Education and all other Federal agencies to insure that Federal moneys are in fact not used discriminatorially.

Title VI, like *Brown versus the Board of Education*, set down a principle. Hopefully, further legislation will provide for the realization of this principle.

Thank you.