

Timeline Slides

3/28/18

By: Jake Young

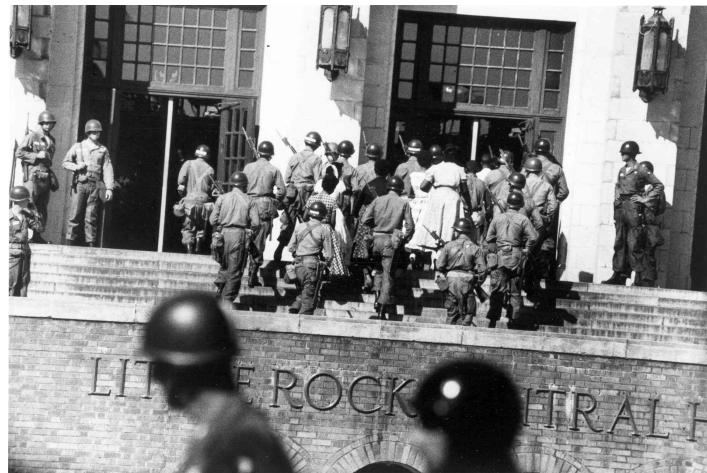
Brown V. Board of Education (Dec 9, 1952 - May 17, 1954)

It was a supreme court case in which the court declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students to be unconstitutional. The plaintiffs in Brown asserted that this system of racial separation, while masquerading as providing separate but equal treatment of both white and black Americans, instead perpetuated inferior accommodations, services, and treatment for black Americans. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously that racial segregation in public schools violated the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits the states from denying equal protection of the laws to any person within their jurisdictions. The decision declared that separate educational facilities for white and African American students were inherently unequal.



Little Rock Nine (September 3, 1957)

The Little Rock Nine were a group of nine black students who enrolled at formerly all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in September 1957. Their attendance at the school was a test of *Brown v. Board of Education*, a landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling that declared segregation in public schools unconstitutional. On September 4, 1957, the first day of classes at Central High, Governor Orval Faubus called in the Arkansas National Guard to block the black students' entry into the high school. Later that month, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent in federal troops to escort the Little Rock Nine into the school. It helped support the case *Brown V. Board of Education* to end school segregation.



Kenneth + Mamie Clark (July 14, 1914 - May 1, 2005)

Kenneth Bancroft Clark and Mamie Phipps Clark were African-American psychologists who as a married team conducted important research among children and were active in the Civil Rights Movement. They founded the Northside Center for Child Development in Harlem and the organization Harlem Youth Opportunities Unlimited. Kenneth Clark also was an educator and professor at City College of New York, and first black president of the American Psychological Association. They were known for their 1940s experiments using dolls to study children's attitudes about race. The Clarks' work contributed to the ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court in which it determined that de jure racial segregation in public education was unconstitutional.



Amsterdam News CLASSROOM

Drs. Kenneth and Mamie Clark pioneering psychologists

By HERB ROYD
Special to the AmNews

This past weekend at the City College of New York, a crowd, summoned by the Harlem Cultural Archives and the Northside Center, gathered to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Drs. Kenneth and Mamie Clark. From a gathering of panelists and the keynote speaker, Dr. Phyllis Harrison-Rose, the audience gained additional insight into the founders and the incomparable contributions of the pioneering psychologists who are best known for their "doll test" used in the landmark U.S. Board of Education decision in 1954.

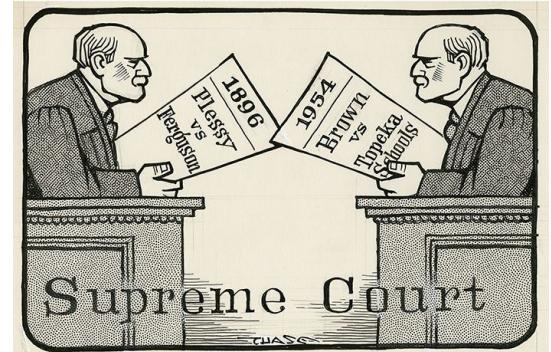
Although more could have been said about how their social science research played such a vital role in the nation's political development, the participants certainly highlighted the Clarks' devo-



Mamie and Kenneth Clark

Plessy V. Ferguson (May 18, 1896)

In his case, Homer Adolph Plessy v. The State of Louisiana, Plessy's lawyers argued that the state law which required East Louisiana Railroad to segregate trains had denied him his rights under the Thirteenth and Fourteenth amendments of the United States Constitution, which provided for equal treatment under the law. However, the judge presiding over his case, John Howard Ferguson, ruled that Louisiana had the right to regulate railroad companies while they operated within state boundaries. Plessy was convicted and sentenced to pay a \$25 fine. Plessy v. Ferguson was a landmark decision of the U.S. Supreme Court issued in 1896. It upheld the constitutionality of racial segregation laws for public facilities as long as the segregated facilities were equal in quality, a doctrine that came to be known as separate but equal. This legitimized the state laws re-establishing racial segregation that were passed in the American South in the late 19th century after the end of the Reconstruction Era. The decision was handed down by a vote of 7 to 1.



Missouri Ex Rel (Gaines V. Canada) (1938)

The Registrar at the Law School of the University of Missouri, Woodson Canada, refused admission to Lloyd Gaines because he was black. At the time, blacks could attend no law school specifically in the state. Gaines cited that the refusal violated the Fourteenth Amendment. The State of Missouri had offered to pay for Gaines's tuition at an adjacent state's law school, which he turned down. The issue was whether Missouri violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment by affording whites, not blacks, the ability to attend law school within the state. The decision did not strike down separate but equal schools, upheld in Plessy v. Ferguson. Instead, it provided that if there was only one school, students of all races could be admitted. It struck down segregation by exclusion if the government provided just one school



12 DETROIT FREE PRESS—Tuesday, January 13, 1948

OKLAHOMA CASE DECIDED

High Court Bars Delays in Negro School Equality

WASHINGTON—(P)—The Supreme Court held Monday that Negroes were entitled not only to receive in state institutions any sort of educational training that white persons could get in such schools, but also to get it as quickly as any other group.

Strict application of the order would give the State of Oklahoma just three days to admit a Negro applicant, Ada Lois Sipuel, to the law school at the all-white University of Oklahoma, or set up separate and equal facilities for her.

A NEW SEMESTER begins Jan. 15. There is no Oklahoma State law school for Negroes now. The applicant already has been

The Court will review a decision by Federal Judge Paul Jones in Cleveland that the 1947 Rent Control Act was unconstitutional because the United States was now "in fact" at peace and Congress could not use war powers.

—Upheld, in effect, the conviction of Benjamin F. Fields for contempt of Congress. Fields had refused to produce certain records before a House Surplus Property Committee. The Court denied the appeal of the war-surplus broker.

Obituaries

Mendez V. Westminster (1947)



Five Mexican-American fathers challenged the practice of school segregation in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, in Los Angeles.

They claimed that their children, along with 5000 other children of Mexican ancestry, were victims of unconstitutional discrimination by being forced to attend separate schools for mexicans. Mexican Americans, who were then considered to be white, were normally unaffected by legal segregation and, in general they always went to segregated white schools. The Mendez family, who previously went to white schools without problems, suddenly found their children forced into separate schools for mexicans when they came to Westminster , the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the district court's ruling but not on equal protection grounds. It did not challenge the "separate but equal" interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment. Instead, the Ninth Circuit held that the segregation was not racially based, but it had been implemented by the school districts without being specifically authorized by state law,



Brown ii (1954-1955)

After the Supreme Court decided the original Brown case, it planned to hear arguments during its next court session about just how school desegregation was going to happen. Segregation in United States schools had existed for centuries. The Court understood that it would not be easy to get the states to follow its ruling and desegregate their schools.

Also, in its ruling in Brown, the Court had not given the states any instructions for how to end school segregation. The Court had also not given the states a deadline for when they needed to desegregate their schools.

Brown v. Board of Education II was a Supreme Court case decided in 1955. Many all-white schools in the United States had not followed this ruling and still had not integrated (allowed black children into) their schools. In Brown II, the Court ordered them to integrate their schools "with all deliberate speed. In Brown II, the Supreme Court also set out rules about what schools needed to do to desegregate. Finally, it explained how the United States government would make sure the schools did desegregate.



Prince Edward County School / Reaction to Brown Desegregation

The Prince Edward Foundation created a series of private schools to educate the county's white children. These schools were supported by tuition grants from the state and tax credits from the county. Prince Edward Academy became the prototype for all white private schools formed to protest school integration. No provision was made for educating the county's black children. Some got schooling with relatives in nearby communities or at makeshift schools in church basements. Others were educated out of state by groups such as the Society of Friends. In 1963– 1964, the Prince Edward Free School picked up some of the slack. But some kids missed part or all of their education for five years.



University of Alabama desegregated (June 10, 1963)

George Wallace, one of the most controversial politicians in U.S. history, was elected governor of Alabama in 1962 under an ultra-segregationist platform. In his 1963 inaugural address, he promised his white followers segregation now. When African American students attempted to desegregate the University of Alabama. Alabama's new governor, flanked by state troopers, literally blocked the door of the enrollment office. The U.S. Supreme Court, however, had declared segregation unconstitutional in 1954's *Brown v. Board of Education*, and the executive branch undertook aggressive tactics to enforce the ruling. President John F. Kennedy federalized National Guard troops and deployed them to the University of Alabama to force its desegregation. The next day, Governor Wallace yielded to the federal pressure, and two African American students—Vivian Malone and James A. Hood successfully enrolled. In September of the same year, Wallace again attempted to block the desegregation of an Alabama public school—this time Tuskegee High School in Huntsville, but President Kennedy once again employed his executive authority and federalized National Guard troops.

