

# Segregation Academies

## The Effect of Segregated Private Education on Public School Systems in the Deep South

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### Abstract

After years of resisting the mandate put forth by *Brown vs. Board of Education*, public schools began integrating across the Deep South in the 1960s and 70s. White parents sought to perpetuate the segregated status quo by organizing all-white private schools known as “segregation academies.” I create a novel data set of segregation academies in the Deep South and find that they caused public school enrollment to decline by 15%. White students drive this decline: segregation academies caused a 30% decrease in white enrollment, but had no impact on Black enrollment. Ultimately, the white share of enrollment decreased by 23% and is accompanied by an increase in the relative segregation of public schools.

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