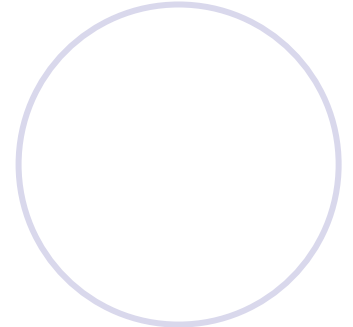
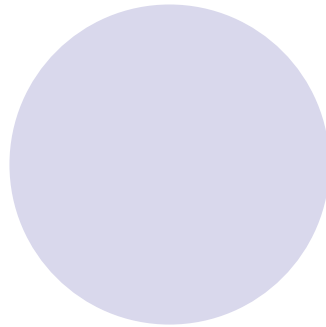
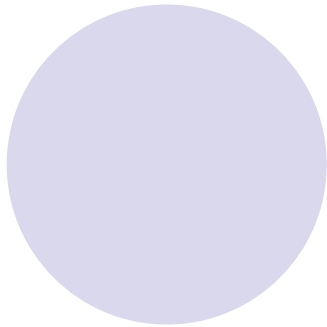


Brown v. Board of Education of
Topeka, Kansas
U.S. Supreme Court



Brown v. Board of Education

- 1954 - the year in which the United States Supreme Court issued a landmark interpretation of the meaning of the “equal protection of the laws” (U.S. Supreme Court, 2001, p.231).
- Seventeen states used the “separate but equal” principle to pass laws permitting segregation in public schools.
- The Supreme Court viewed a few segregation cases from Delaware, Kansas, South Carolina, and Virginia.
 - In each of the cases the federal districts adhered to the “separate but equal doctrine” although the plaintiffs in Delaware were admitted to “the white schools because of their superiority to the Negro schools.”

Segregation and Education

- Chief Justice Warren declared that the Supreme Court must look at the effect of segregation on education and not just the “tangible” factors (“buildings, curricula, qualifications and salaries of teachers”)(U.S. Supreme Court, 2001, p. 233).
- Education is defined as “the principal instrument in awakening the child to cultural values, in preparing him (or her) for later professional training, and in helping him to adjust normally to his environment” (U.S. Supreme Court, 2001, p. 234).
- “Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal” (U.S. Supreme Court, 2001, p. 234).



Reference

- U.S. Supreme Court (2001). *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*. In F. Schultz (Ed.), *SOURCES: Notable selections in education* (3rd ed.) (pp. 231-235). New York: McGraw-Hill Dushkin.