

THE DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS DIVISION COLLECTION

Papers, 1943-1977

(Predominantly, 1970-1976)

8.75 linear feet

Accession Number 951 L.C.  
Number MS

The records of the Detroit Public Schools Community Relations Division were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs by Dr. Freeman Flynn in September of 1979 and were opened for research in October of 1986.

Dr. Flynn served on the Detroit School Board for many years. His personal interests led him to focus upon human relations, and the problems associated with inter-cultural and inter-racial education. During the period 1965 through 1976, when the city sought to implement plans for the desegregation of its schools, Dr. Flynn served as the Director of the Division of School-Community Relations.

The files of the Community Relations Division reflect the effort of the Detroit School Board and key administrative staff, such as Dr. Flynn, to confront and deal with issues involved in achieving school desegregation and improved relations between the city's blacks and whites. The early records, 1943-1969, document the initial voluntary programs aimed at inter-racial understanding. The later records, 1970-1977, relate to the School Boards plans for compliance with court ordered desegregation and school busing as required by Judge Stephen Roth in *Bradley v. Milliken*, 1970.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Bradley v. Milliken, 1970-1977  
Busing, 1970-1976  
Desegregation, 1969-1976

Inter-cultural Education, 1943-1976  
Inter-racial Education, 1943-1977  
Opportunity in Education, 1943-1977

Among the important correspondents are:

Sam Brownwell  
Robert Demascio  
Freeman Flynn

Arthur Jefferson  
Stephen Roth

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Series II, School Desegregation, 1970-1977, Boxes 7-18:

Correspondence, clippings, reports, court records, and other materials relating to the Detroit Public Schools efforts to comply with court-ordered desegregation.

Non-manuscript Material:

A small amount of artwork concerning desegregation programs has been placed in the Archives Audio Visual Collections.

Series I  
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Boxes 1-7

Correspondence, clippings, reports, and other materials relating to attempts to implement voluntary inter-racial programs in the Detroit Public Schools. Files are arranged chronologically by month and year, and alphabetically by subject within each month.

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