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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 6, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB GOLDWIN

FROM:

JIM CONNOR 

The President reviewed the attached article on busing and made the following notations:

"Excellent -- we should use."

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Don Rumsfeld

Attachment:

Article from Christian Science Monitor  
10/1/75 "A former Teacher on Busing"

## Readers write

### A former teacher on busing

Education editor Cynthia Parsons said in her comments, "Busing . . . desegregation . . . quality" — "Obviously he's [President Ford is] for segregation, as are all those who oppose busing to achieve racially balanced schools. . . ." And in the next paragraph she impugned the integrity of the last two presidents under our Constitution because of their stand on busing. This sounds like the days of Senator McCarthy, when all of his opponenits were automatically Communists.

I don't know Miss Parsons' qualifications, but mine are that I live in a racially integrated community, and taught for over 20 years in the Los Angeles city schools, most of the time in the Barrio (Chicano schools). I observe in the Pasadena school system, where I live, that busing has accelerated "white flight." The schools are now more "segregated" than before busing began. In Los Angeles (which has resisted racial busing) I observed and achieved true remedial activities.

The last year before my recent retirement, through the Federal Title I program, I had help in classroom most of the morning from a reading specialist and from a bilingual teacher's aide. With this kind of concentrated effort, the three of us really did achieve with our children. I shudder to think of what would have happened to the six pupils in my low reading group if they had been bused to six different schools. Without a workable remedial group and staff, their teachers would have had to let them "just sit" for lack of time to do anything else.

Open enrollment, or some other method where all minorities are free to attend the school of their own choice, will desegregate the schools sufficiently to satisfy con-

stitutional requirements. Busing to achieve "racial balance" is plain silly in the way it is being applied.

Busing fosters the poorest education for the child who needs the most help. How can a teacher confer with a parent and enlist home cooperation if that parent lives miles and miles away, and probably has no transportation available? How can a teacher tutor a child after school who desperately needs help? How can a teacher enforce a proper sense of discipline in the classroom by after-school detention (about all that is left to a teacher these days) if there is a bus leaving in 10 minutes and the pupil must be on it?

Busing obstructs the education of those poorer students which we would most dearly desire to help. I feel deeply that true integration can only be achieved through lifting the socioeconomic status of the individual. It's a very large order. It is a worthy challenge to education. Let's eliminate half-baked social experiments with our children. The courts have jumped on a 10-year-old bandwagon that is going nowhere.

Altadena, Calif.

R. Sheldon Hunt

*Christian Science Monitor*

10/1/75

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

✓  
DON RUMSFELD  
DICK CHENEY  
ROBERT HARTMANN  
JERRY JONES  
JAMES CONNOR  
JAMES CAVANAUGH  
PAUL THEIS  
MILT FRIEDMAN

FROM:

BOB GOLDWIN *RGW*

This letter to the editor makes a few good points in very simple language.

Two copies are attached in case you want to pass one on.

Attachment

*Excellent - we should  
use. RGW*