

FROM THE STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON DE FACTO SEGREGATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. October 18, 1964.

Subscribed to by the Milwaukee Jewish Council.

BUSSING

Bussing of children between segregated schools, so as to change the racial composition of both, is just the employment of a widely used means to achieve a specific educational purpose. Bussing makes better education in consolidated schools possible in rural areas. It is widespread in cities and suburbs, where it is used by both public and private schools, as well as by day camps, after-school religious classes, and other educational and recreational facilities.

Bussing is not a policy. It cannot be a panacea. Of itself, it has no educational values, positive or negative.

Accordingly, we neither favor nor oppose bussing, per se.

We approve of bussing when it is the most effective feasible way to attain desirable educational ends, including racial integration.

Like school plants, class scheduling, and other adjuncts and arrangements of the educational process, transportation of children must be evaluated in terms of its utility in advancing education for democratic living of all the children affected. Will the school to which they are being transported help them realize more fully their potentials for educational achievement? Will it augment their motivation to learn? Will it build sound relationships among those of different backgrounds?

Subsidiary criteria are those of cost (does transportation of children represent the most efficacious use of available funds in relation to other desirable purposes for which they might be expended?) and time consumed in travel (does it interfere with their after-school religious classes, recreational or cultural activities?). As a rule of thumb, we would consider thirty minutes as not significantly in excess of average time spent walking or otherwise getting to school in any case.

ON THE PROGRESS OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD, October 15, 1959

Submitted to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

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