

## **Libertarians ask: Why are schools more segregated, but marriages more integrated?**

### *Does more government cause more racial intolerance?*

WASHINGTON, DC — America is becoming more racially divided and segregated. No, America is becoming more racially tolerant and integrated.

Actually, both statements are true, the Libertarian Party says, depending on who's in charge — private citizens or the government.

“The evidence is clear: If you want a racially divided society, get politicians to start passing laws,” said Steve Dasbach, the party's national chairman. “If you want to promote harmony and tolerance, put your trust in individuals and the free market.”

Need proof? Dasbach cited two new studies — one showing that America is fracturing on racial lines, and one showing that racial togetherness is flourishing like never before.

- A new study by the Harvard Graduate School of Education entitled “Deepening Segregation in American Public Schools” reveals that **“segregation is spreading” in government schools**. The study, taken between 1968 and 1994, reports that segregation of black and Hispanic students is surging — despite the government's 43-year effort to mandate integration.
- But new research by the Bureau of the Census discovered that **intermarriages between blacks and whites are skyrocketing**. Since 1970, the number of interracial marriages has grown from less than 400,000 to more than 1.5 million. The number of interracial children has quadrupled to more than 2 million. And by 1993, one in every eight African-American marriages included a white spouse — the highest percentage in American history.

**“Marriages are becoming more integrated. Government schools are becoming more segregated. How do we explain this paradox?”** asked Dasbach. “The answer is simple: The government is in charge of schools. But *individuals* are in charge of marriage.

“In America, in those areas where we've kept the government out, racial tolerance is flourishing. But where the government is most involved — in education, especially grade schools and high schools — we see more racial hostility and segregation,” he said.

“Now, America has a choice to make: Do we *repeat* the mistakes that created more school segregation — or *encourage* the trends that sparked more intermarriages? In other words, do we put our trust in government or individuals to promote tolerance? The answer is obvious.”

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