

## Multicultural Education Timeline: Supreme Court Rulings

We discussed earlier in the timeline the precedence set in the State of California by Mendez v. Westminster and the California Board of Education. On a larger scale, the Supreme Court ruling in Brown v. Board of Education in 1954 set the stage for desegregation of schools on a national level. This was an important distinction to overturn the ruling of Plessy v. Ferguson where education was considered “separate but equal”. With Brown v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court found that schools separated according to race were inherently unequal in the quality of education being provided, especially for the African American and other minority populations. With this ruling the desegregation of schools began. This movement would be important for what would later become multicultural education. This Supreme Court ruling was yet another cornerstone for the fundamental foundations of the concepts guided by multiculturalism. In 1982 the Supreme Court ruled in the case of Board of Education v. Pico regarding removal of “objectionable” books from the library shelves. The importance of this with regards to multicultural education is the role of allowing a variety of material in the library and not having material censored based on personal beliefs and agendas.

### References

History of Brown v. Board of Education. (2012, July 17). Retrieved April 13, 2015, from <http://www.uscourts.gov/educational-resources/get-involved/federal-court-activities/brown-board-education-re-enactment/history.aspx>

Nettie Hunt and Daughter Nikie on steps of U.S. Supreme Court. [Online Image]. (1954). Retrieved on April 12, 2015 from <http://www.brownat50.org>