
SEPARATE IS NOT EQUAL

BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Integrationists

Thurgood Marshall

Thurgood Marshall, one of the leading legal figures of the 20th century, grew up in a nurturing African American environment in segregated Baltimore. After graduating from all-black Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, he enrolled in the Howard University School of Law. In 1934 he began practicing law in his hometown and immediately was drawn into the local civil rights movement. In 1938 Marshall took over the leadership of the NAACP legal team from his mentor, Charles Hamilton Houston. After the *Brown* case, he argued several other civil rights cases before the Supreme Court. From 1961 to 1965, Marshall served as a judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and as solicitor general from 1965 to 1967. In that year President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to the U.S. Supreme Court, where he served until his retirement in 1991. In addition to Marshall's exceptional legal skills, his earthy wit, hard work, and ability to communicate with people from all walks of life made him an effective leader.

Robert Carter

Robert Carter presented the arguments in the Kansas case. He attended Howard University School of Law and completed graduate studies at Columbia University. After encountering widespread racism in the U.S. Army during World War II, he joined the NAACP legal team in 1944 and became Marshall's key assistant. From 1956 to 1968 Carter served as the General Counsel of the NAACP, where he continued to be an aggressive advocate for civil rights. In 1972 he was appointed U.S. District Court judge for the Southern District of New York.

Spottswood W. Robinson III

Spottswood W. Robinson III argued the Virginia case. A graduate of the Howard University School of Law, Robinson entered private practice with his partner, Oliver W. Hill, in 1939. At one point, Robinson and Hill had ongoing lawsuits with 75 school districts. Robinson was appointed dean of Howard's law school in 1960. In 1966 he was named chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals and served until his retirement in 1989.

Louis L. Redding

Louis L. Redding presented a portion of the arguments in the Delaware cases. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1929 and became Delaware's first African American attorney. After the 1954 decision, he continued his legal practice in Wilmington and his commitment to defending civil rights cases. For the rest of his life, he was considered Delaware's leading civil rights attorney.

Jack Greenberg

Jack Greenberg, the only white member of the integrationists' legal team, presented part of the arguments in the Delaware cases. He graduated from Columbia Law School in 1948. After *Brown*, Greenberg eventually replaced Thurgood Marshall as the leading counsel of the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund. In 1968 he helped found the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund and since then has helped establish other global humanitarian organizations. In recent years, Greenberg has written several books and is currently professor emeritus at Columbia Law School.

George E. C. Hayes

George E. C. Hayes argued the first portion of the Washington, D.C., case. A graduate of the Howard University School of Law in 1918, he was for many years a faculty member there, as well as chief legal counsel for the university. He also served on the District of Columbia school board. After *Bolling v. Sharpe*, Hayes argued several civil rights and civil liberties cases. In 1954 he represented Annie Lee Moss, a black woman falsely accused of being a Communist, before Senator Joseph McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

James M. Nabrit Jr.

James M. Nabrit Jr. argued the second part of the Washington, D.C., case. A graduate of Northwestern University School of Law, he joined Howard's law faculty in 1936 and helped establish the school's coursework in civil rights law. He served as president of Howard University in the 1960s and deputy ambassador to the United Nations in 1966.