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## **CACAGNY Support Parents' Intervention in IntegrateNYC's Absurd Lawsuit**

A patient comes in with a fever, and his doctor wants to toss out the thermometer. This, in a nutshell, is IntegrateNYC's lawsuit against New York City's public schools.

The phalanx of eight fancy lawyers, three fancy law school professors, and three professional activists argue on behalf of their clients that because academically rigorous admissions in New York City schools result in "too few" Blacks and Hispanics in these programs, they offend *Social Justice* – Critical Race Theory lingo for equal outcomes by the optics of skin color – and must be banned. Of course, it is precisely the outcomes of such rigorous admissions that expose the dismal failure of the public school system to educate. Besides, it benefits no one to dismantle rigorous programs. Rigorous programs should instead be *expanded*, in both scale and variety.

Take, for example, the SHSAT, the objective, scholastic achievement test that is the sole criterion for admissions to the Specialized High Schools. In 2020, 11% of Specialized High Schools offers went to Blacks and Hispanics. But instead of looking at the dismal fact that fewer than 10% of Black and Hispanic grade-school students rate as well-performing in State tests designed to assess just *basic* proficiency, plaintiff lawyers, with their Critical Race Theory blinders, fume at the test's White privilege. Tutoring is expensive! \$166.67/hr! (Those are the expensive, Park-Avenue rates, by the way.) So it must be that the SHSAT "largely reflects affluence" and is thus "a contest of access to expensive coaching and extracurricular resources." Except that Asians, who receive 54% of the offers, have *higher* poverty rates than Blacks in New York City! The expensive lawyers need to do more homework.

To support the systemic racism part of their Critical Race Theory ideology, plaintiffs claim that the 1971 law codifying the SHSAT was the product of discriminatory intent, has successfully guarded against increase of Black and Hispanic students, and furthermore, dramatically reduced their numbers. That'd be in an alternate universe, because in the actual world, from the mid 1970s to the mid 1990s, for twenty solid years, Brooklyn Tech, by far the largest Specialized High School, was majority Black and Hispanic – using the allegedly discriminatory SHSAT!

These are but just two examples from a complaint that, starting from the extremist and debunked political ideology of Critical Race Theory, is riddled with key omissions, mischaracterizations, circular reasoning, rehashing of idea-laundered "research," and absurd conclusions. To double down, the lawsuit demands that Critical Race Theory political indoctrination itself be mandated into the school curriculum – the better to set up future generations, one supposes, for "trauma-informed" struggle sessions, aka "courageous conversations," in which confessions for group guilt are compelled.

From CACAGNY's experience with Civil Rights struggles with the City, we do not trust that the City will defend itself zealously. That is why it is so important for parents who believe that rigorous academic education has a place in the public school system be allowed to intervene in this lawsuit. To the judge in this case, we plead: for Justice to be done, let our parents in!

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