

WHO CAN GET A GOOD EDUCATION?

CALIFORNIA HAS SEGREGATED STUDENTS THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY



Under California law, African American, Native American, and Asian American students have been forced to attend segregated schools. Mexican American students, though not targeted by law, were shunted into segregated, inferior schools. In 1945, **Gonzalo and Felicitas Mendez** filed a successful federal lawsuit on behalf of their children and 5,000 Latino students in Orange County. Soon after their victory, the state repealed all school segregation laws.



MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS, LIKE THESE CHILDREN IN THE CITY OF ORANGE IN 1925, WERE SEGREGATED IN DILAPIDATED, POORLY EQUIPPED SCHOOLS FOR DECADES UNTIL THE 1947 FEDERAL COURT DECISION IN *MENDEZ V. WESTMINSTER* ENDED THE PRACTICE.



WE DIDN'T COME IN AS SPIRITED ZEALOTS- WE 'BACKED IN' BY VIRTUE OF TRYING TO GET OUR DAUGHTER IN A REGULAR ELEMENTARY CLASS FULL-TIME.

- ROBERT HOLLAND



RACHEL HOLLAND AS A GRADUATE OF MCCLATCHY HIGH SCHOOL IN SACRAMENTO.

Class Photo: Courtesy of the Local History Collection, Orange Public Library, Orange
Rachel Holland: Courtesy of the Holland Family