

NEW CHARGES THAT BLACK STUDENTS ARE FAILING AT THE NATION'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS LAW SCHOOLS ARE TOTALLY FALSE

For 10 years or more, racial conservatives spent huge sums in litigation designed to ban affirmative action in law school admissions.

But last year, this effort to keep many black students out of the best law schools was defeated by the Supreme Court in the landmark *Grutter* decision.

Having lost in the courts, the enemies of affirmative action now propose to achieve their objective by publicizing seriously flawed academic studies claiming that black students are most likely to fail if they try to compete in the competitive classrooms of the nation's most prestigious law schools.

Through this strategy racial conservatives hope to persuade black students to avoid accepting places at the top law schools and to set their sights instead on second- and third-tier law schools.

HERE IS THE TRUTH

The record shows that black students' success in the best law schools has been outstanding. For example, the black student graduation rate at Stanford Law School, one of the most selective law schools in the nation, is 97.7 percent. Last year, former dean Kathleen Sullivan informed *The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education* that the one black student who did not complete the degree program in recent years because of a family emergency is now back in school. "Our record is, in fact, pretty much perfect," said Dean Sullivan.

Less than a year ago JBHE identified nine top-ranking law schools — Columbia University, Cornell University, Georgetown University, Northwestern University, the University of Michigan, the University of Minnesota, the University of Texas, the University of Virginia, and Washington University — where the black student graduation rate was close to 100 percent.

IGNORE THE SPIN AND SEEK THE FACTS

For more information on black law student graduation rates, go to www.jbhe.com.

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