

Seven decades ago, subsequent to the Brown decision and the Friedman voucher plan, some states used vouchers to continue segregation in schools—in Ohio the universal voucher scheme expands segregation.

The voucher promoters are noticeably sly and disingenuous as they pontificate that the universal voucher scheme is the contemporary civil rights movement and that it is a driver of social justice. In contrast, the Ohio universal voucher scheme segregates students along racial, economic, and social lines. The voucher scheme is completely antithetical to the Ohio constitutional provision for the common school system.

In 1954 the Ohio Supreme Court ruled in Brown that the 1896 “separate but equal” doctrine was wrongheaded. The Brown doctrine required states to provide education on equal terms, meaning that public schools must be integrated.

In a fervid attempt to circumvent the Brown decision, political officials in some states adopted the Milton Friedman private school voucher plan. They advanced the idea of individual freedom and freedom of association. (These notions are the same that voucher supporters use today to justify vouchers.)

In 2023 Ohio adopted the universal voucher scheme which is expanding segregation. Ohio politicians that support universal vouchers are guilty of appropriating tax funds that result in segregating students.

Where is the outrage?