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Brown vs. Board of Education 50 Years Later: Where Are We Now and Where Are We Trying to Go?

Joseph L. White

Professor Emeritus, Psychiatry and Psychology, University of California, Irvine

For the past 43 years, Dr. White has enjoyed a distinguished career in the field of psychology and mental health as a teacher, mentor, administrator, clinical supervisor, writer, consultant and practicing psychologist. He is currently Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Psychiatry at the University of California, Irvine, where he spent most of his career as a teacher, supervising psychologist, mentor and Director of ethnic studies and cross-cultural programs.

Dr. White received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Michigan State University in 1961. Dr. White is an author of several papers and three books: *The Psychology of Blacks: An African- American Perspective* (1990; 1984); *The Troubled Adolescent* (1989); *Black Man Emerging: Facing the Past and Seizing a Future in America* (1998).

He was a pioneer in the field of Black psychology and is affectionately referred to as the "Godfather" of Black psychology by his students, mentees and younger colleagues. His seminal article in *Ebony* magazine in 1970, "Toward a Black Psychology" was instrumental in beginning the modern era of African-American and ethnic psychology.

In addition to his teaching and research, Dr. White has been a practicing psychologist and consultant. He served as a supervising psychologist and staff affiliate psychologist to five hospitals and three clinical practices in Southern California. He has worked as a consultant with school districts, universities, private organizations, drug prevention programs, and government agencies. Dr. White was appointed to the California State Licensing Board by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. and served as Chairman for three years. He is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas.

