**COURT-ORDERED INTEGRATION A FAILURE**

Prof. James S. Coleman, author of the "Coleman Report" in 1966, which has been cited widely to justify school integration plans and is still frequently cited by courts when they hand down desegregation orders, says the Federal courts have gone too far.

Prof. Coleman, a sociologist at the University of Chicago, said that in imposing integration plans, including forced busing, federal judges might create more segregation than they eliminate. He said that court-ordered school integration is a failure outside the South and that public schools are becoming more segregated.

In his statements, which were widely publicized throughout the nation in May and June, Prof. Coleman said that a new study he is preparing shows that "white flight" to the suburbs to avoid court-ordered school integration is resulting in a "general regression in the quality of education in the United States." The courts made a fundamental mistake by being more sociological than constitutional, he said in an interview. He thinks the courts have erred by going beyond what is seen as their constitutional duty to eliminate de facto segregation imposed by governmental action. Coleman's 1966 study, which was financed and published by the federal government, presented findings that low-income minority students allegedly perform better academically if they go to white schools, he said.

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Levi Strauss & Co. has warned that recent developments in areas of property and civil rights are growing unease about the future of the minority community. The company, which is cited widely, has also been accused of "double standards" to racial issues in the country. "If white Congressmen have denied a black Congressman the opportunity to serve, " he added, "Middle-class blacks are not going to be held responsible for the failure of what he sees as their constitutional duty to eliminate segregation imposed by governmental action.

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Douglas, 76 years old, suffered a stroke Dec. 31, 1974 that immobilized the entire left side of his body, and he still cannot walk. There are indications that Douglas probably will never recover completely from the stroke, the Times said. In addition, Douglas has a heart pacemaker, which is "sputtering pretty old," and may have to be replaced.

During Douglas's absence, his secretaries and clerks fly to New York several times a week to bring his court documents to read while he remains in the Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine in New York University. Because of the demanding therapy schedule, Douglas has little time to read drafts or to confer with his colleagues, the Times said. Justice William J. Brennan Jr. goes to New York to get Douglas's opinions to relay to the rest of the court.

Douglas's five-month absence has clearly upset the work of the court, according to one observer. Douglas has been unable to release many cases, because every opinion must be approved by all the justices who support it. Within the court, the word is that Douglas has not been able to supply his share of opinion writing, thus adding to the burden on each of the other justices. That would partially explain the court's current backlog, according to the report.

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