

Eliminate NCLB Task Force

Our Children are the Future

Kings / Tulare UniServe

California Teachers Association

National Education Association

<http://eliminatencblb.org/index.shtml>

Take Action!

NCLB should be eliminated because it:

- 1. Is not scientifically based.**
- 2. Is test-driven education and is not meeting the individual needs of students.**
- 3. Violates the US Constitution.**
- 4. Supports complicity of corporate interests rather than democracy based on public concerns.**
- 5. Fosters coercion over cooperation with regards to federal funding for public education.**
- 6. Does not follow the U.S. Government's own data on learning.**

We must take action now!

NCLB is not working. Claims that it has raised student achievement are false. Educational researcher, Gerald Bracey has analyzed the data. He concludes:

Secretary of Education Spellings has repeatedly said, that because of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) "9-year-olds made greater gains in five years (on National Assessment) than in the previous 28 years combined." This is astonishingly misleading and wholly disingenuous on her part.

First, the five-year period in question is from 1999 to 2004. No National Assessments of trends occurred in between those two years and none has occurred since. Thus, all of the gains could have occurred while Bill Clinton was president. NCLB did not even become a law until early 2002 so it could not have had an impact during the school year. The implementation of the law in 2002-2003 can only be described as chaotic and surely no gains were registered then. National Assessment tested 9-year-olds in early 2004 leaving only three months of NCLB implementation on which to credit the rise in scores.

Therefore, if we believe Spellings, we must also believe that the gain in test scores— at the cost of billions of dollars of tax dollars— were the result of only three months of actual NCLB legislation, September, October and November of 2003.

Researcher Stephen Krashen confirms Bracey's analysis of the data and concurs: No Child Left Behind does not deserve the credit for the 1999 – 2004 jump in test scores. The 1999-2004 analysis Spellings cites is based on "trend" scores, equivalent tests given in 1999 and 2004: NCLB was not introduced until 2002-2003. A look at the regular NAEP tests given between 1999 and 2004 shows that the jump occurred between 2000 and 2002, before NCLB and Reading First were implemented.

Repeal NCLB! Restore ESEA!