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Closing the Race Gap in California's School Suspension Trends

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The Civil Rights Project at the University of California Los Angeles recently published another report analyzing 2016-2017 suspension rates and the ongoing unequal impact of suspensions on students' learning in California. This report is part of an annual series published by The Center for Civil Rights Remedies in an ongoing effort to reduce school removals and curb disproportionate use of suspensions for students of color and those with disabilities.

This year's report shows promising and important findings. Although the racial gap for lost instructional days remains prevalent, the chasm is narrowing. These results are likely due to discipline reform and innovation, mandatory trainings, and increased advocacy and accountability. Additionally, there has been little to no added "chaos" in the classroom as a result of these recommended disciplinary reforms. However, problem areas persist, primarily in middle schools, as well as in districts that suspend students for disruption or defiance.

The full report provides a deeper look into the racial inequalities plaguing California schools' disciplinary systems; and for more information on racial, diversity, and disability discrimination in California school districts, please visit UCLA's Civil Rights Project website.

Additionally, if you have any questions about the legal ramifications of racial inequality in schools, please contact a DWK attorney.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Students and Special Education