

DIVERse Families Home

Glossary

Browse DIVERse Families by Subject

Family Relationships

- Adoption
- Foster Care
- Divorce
- Family Member Death
- Poverty
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Culture/Ethnicity

- Bicultural
- Multicultural
- Biethnic
- Multiethnic

Racial Diversity

- Biracial
- Multiracial
- Interracial
- Race Discrimination

LGBTQ

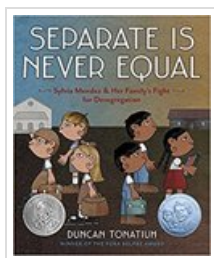
- Homosexuality
- Bisexuality
- Transgender
- Gender nonconformity
- Androgyny
- Intersex
- Asexuality/Aromantic

Disability and Health

- Physical Disability
- Developmental Disability
- Learning Disability
- Mental Illness
- Disfigurement
- Illness
- Addiction

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DIVERse Families: Growth in Family Diversity A Comprehensive Bibliography PK-12



Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Desegregation

[Duncan Tonatiuh](#)

Illustrator

Duncan Tonatiuh

Publisher

Abrams Books for Young Readers

Publication Year

2014

ISBN

9781419710544

Pages

40 pages

Genre

nonfiction

Format

picturebook

Item Type

Nonfiction

Annotation

Years before the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling *Brown v. Board of Education*, Sylvia Mendez, an eight-year-old girl of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage, played an instrumental role in *Mendez v. Westminster*, the landmark desegregation case of 1946 in California.

Grade Level

K-3

Topic

Racial Diversity; Race discrimination; racism; prejudice; segregation

Main Character

girl

Race/Ethnicities

Mexican American

Family Formation

mother and father

LGBTQ+

none

Awards

100 Magnificent Childrens Books, 2014

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50 Books about Peace and Social Justice, 2011

Best Children's Books of the Year, 2015

Best of the Best Books, 2014

Choices, 2015

CSMCL Best Books, 2014

Distinguished Books, 2014

Never Too Old: Picture Books to Share with Older Children and Teens, 2014

Notable Books for a Global Society, 2015

Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People, 2015

NYC Reads 365, 2015

School Stories: Selected K-12 Literature about the School Experience, 2014

Teachers' Choices, 2015

Alabama Camellia Children's Choice Award, 2015-2016, Nominee Beehive Book Award, 2016

Nominee Bluestem Award, 2018

Master List Texas Bluebonnet Award, 2015

Nominee William Allen White Children's Book Award, 2016-2017

Master List Americas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature, 2015, Winner

Cybil Awards, 2014, Finalist, Non-Fiction Young Adult Eureka! Nonfiction Children's

Book Award, 2014, Gold Friends of Children and Literature (FOCAL) Award, 2015,

Winner International Latino Book Award, 2015, 1st Place, Best Children's Picture Book

(English) Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children, 2015, Honor Book,

Non Fiction Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal, 2015, Honor Tomas Rivera

Mexican American Children's Book Award, 2015, Winner Towner Award, 2016,

Nominee, Grades 2-6

Keywords

school integration; Hispanic Americans; Civil Rights movements; court; lawsuit; petition

Diversity Impact

direct

STARS Citation

Tonatiuh, Duncan, "Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Desegregation" (2014). *DIVERse Families*. 757.

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Duncan Tonatiuh. A 2015 Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor Book and a 2015 Robert F. Sibert Honor Book Almost 10 years before Brown vs. Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez and her parents helped end school segregation in California. An American citizen of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage who spoke and wrote perfect English, Mendez was denied enrollment to a "Whites only" school. Her parents took action by organizing the Hispanic community and filing a lawsuit in federal district court. Their success eventually brought an end to the era of segregated education in California. Praise for Separate is Ne...