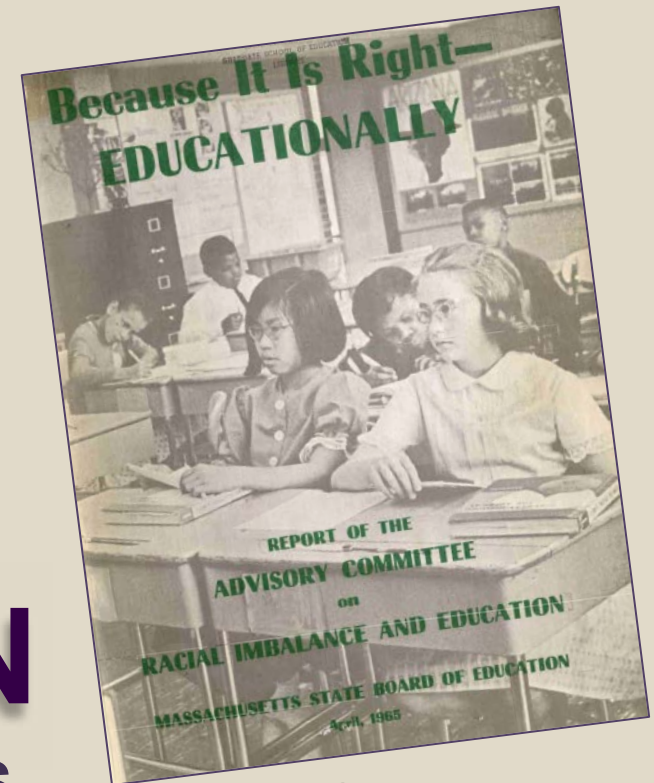


THE  
State's  
Role  
IN  
DESEGREGATION

MASSACHUSETTS  
1964-Present



*One Nation*  
**INDIVISIBLE**

PRESENTED BY MICHAEL ALVES 2/28/13

# HISTORY

## FOUR PHASES:

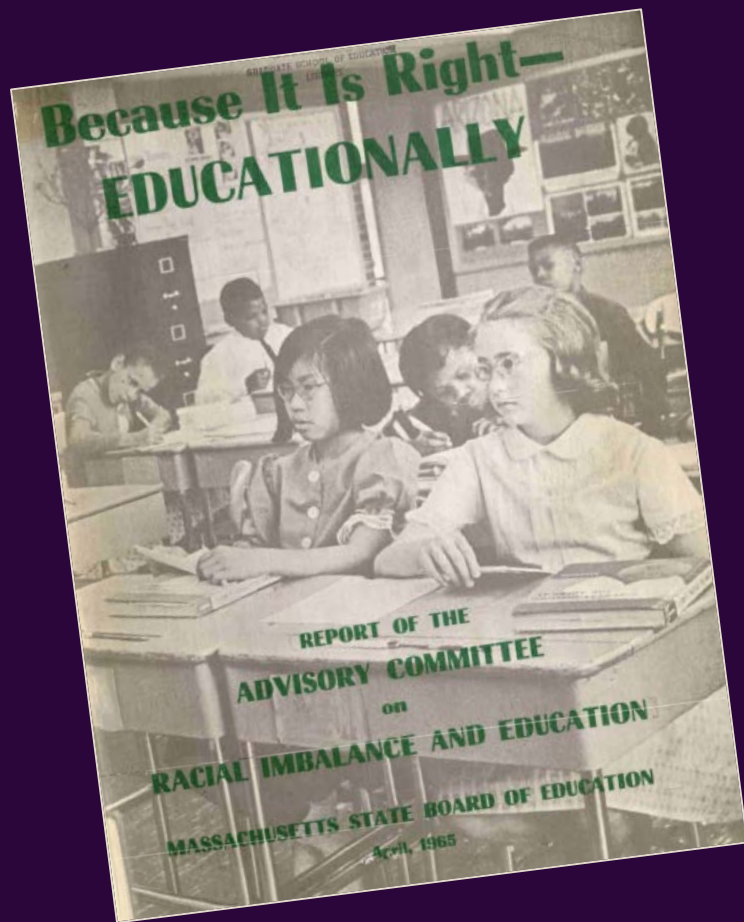
- 1 ENACTMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF RIA
- 2 PROMOTING MAGNET SCHOOLS AND VOLUNTARY RACIAL BALANCE
- 3 PROMOTING CONTROLLED CHOICE AND STATE-APPROVED VOLUNTARY DESEGREGATION PLANS
- 4 THE EROSION OF THE STATE'S ROLE

1964-1974

# ENACTMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF RIA

1

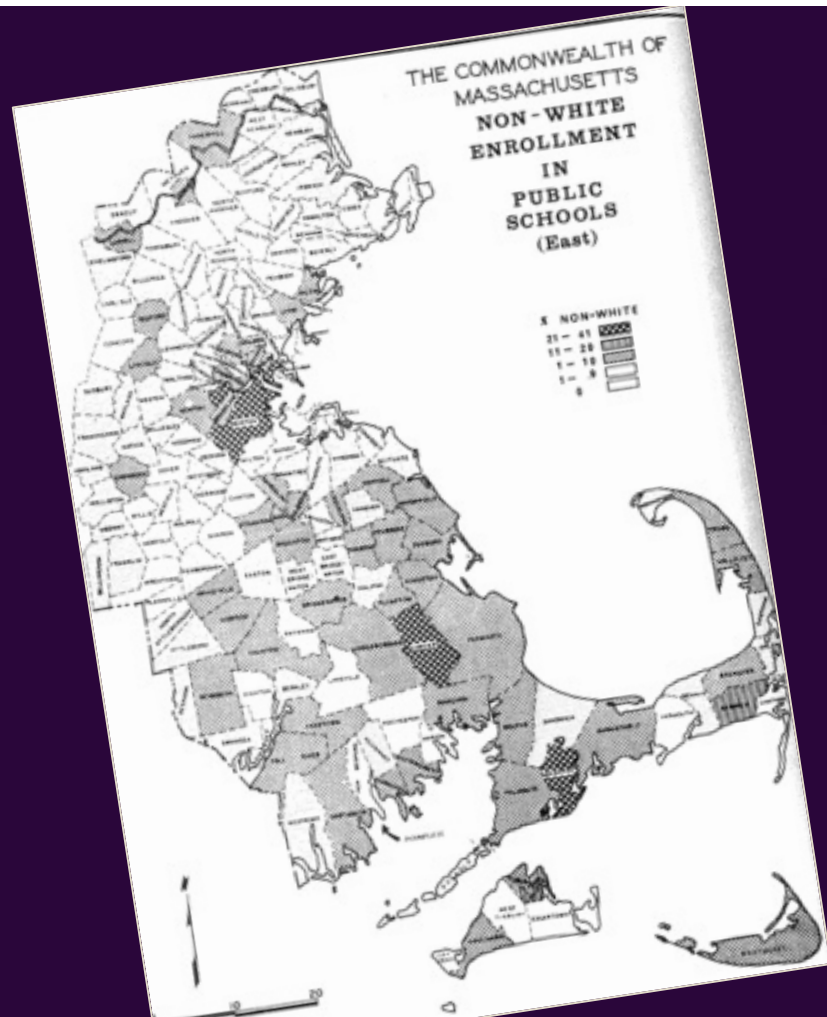
Commissioner of Education Owen  
Kiernan establishes a committee to  
conduct a thorough and independent  
study of racial imbalance in MA.



“whenever and wherever it is found”

Kiernan Committee determines that racial imbalance exists, that it is educationally harmful, and recommends ways to reduce it.





Schools with greater than 50% non-white enrollment are considered “imbalanced”

**55 schools**

RIA “encourages all school committees to adopt as educational objectives the promotion of racial balance and the correction of racial imbalance.”

# RACIAL IMBALANCE ACT

## Authorizes BOE to:

- Conduct annual census
- Require schools to formulate and implement racial balance plans
- Withhold funding if school districts did not show progress within a “reasonable amount of time” (SJC jurisdiction)

# Racial Imbalance Act



Encourages voluntary integration by:

- Increasing state reimbursement for school construction to 65% for integration-related projects
- Offering 100% reimbursement for integration-related transportation



# 1964-1974: ENACTMENT & IMPLEMENTATION

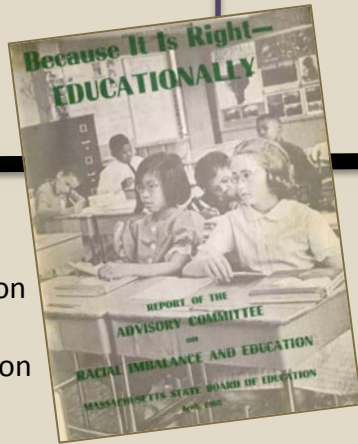
Unaddressed educational inequalities in Boston again lead black parents to protest about low school quality and lack of access to more successful, better-resourced schools.

1963 ●●●●●

NAACP demands elimination of school segregation in Boston

●●●●● 1965

Passage of Racial Imbalance Act



1965-68 ●●●●●

BOE issues racial imbalance findings in BOS and SPG

BOE establishes Bureau of Equal Educational Opportunity

1965 – Operation Exodus

1966 – METCO begins operating

1966 – METCO incorporated into RIA

1968 – METCO State funding

●●●●● 1966-71

1972 ●●●●●

*Morgan v. Hennigan* filed against BSC

Melrose and Bedford are last districts to join METCO

*Keyes v. Denver* (1973)

1973 ●●●●●

Near rewrite of the RIA eliminates BOE's authority to order school redistricting in place of increased financial support for districts attempting to reduce and/or eliminate racial imbalance, known as "Chapter 636 funding."

●●●●● 1974

*Milliken v. Bradley* (1974)

1974-1986 – Court-ordered desegregation in Boston

# Court-ordered desegregation in Boston



In addition to mandatory busing, Judge  
Garrity's remedial order requires:

- Creation of citywide district of magnet schools ("District 9")
- The development of university and business partnerships

1975-1978

PROMOTING  
**MAGNETS**  
&  
VOLUNTARY  
RACIAL  
BALANCE

2

## Shift to voluntary integration...



Following the enactment of Chapter 636 and the implementation of court-ordered desegregation plans in Boston and Springfield, the BEEO focused its attention on the development of magnet schools in other school districts that were found to have racially imbalanced schools.

# Uses of Chapter 636

## funding:

- Creation of new magnet schools in Cambridge, Medford, New Bedford, Lowell, Lawrence and Worcester
- Supported the development of part-time urban/suburban magnet programs involving Boston, Lowell, Lawrence and 22 suburban communities
- Implementation of court-ordered magnet schools in Boston and Springfield



1981-1999



**PROMOTING  
CONTROLLED  
CHOICE** STATE-APPROVED  
**& DESEGREGATION** VOLUNTARY  
PLANS



3



## FACTORS THAT SHAPED STATE ROLE

- 20+ court-ordered magnets operating in District 9 began demonstrating promising results, which led to the creation of “controlled choice”
- Growing efforts to hold states legally accountable for post-*Keyes* segregation
- Increasing diversity in the state, particularly with respect to Latino students

The BEEO supported the expansion of magnet school programs and the development of controlled choice policies.

### *Adoption of Desegregation Plans*

Cambridge*	1981
New Bedford	1982
Holyoke	1983
Worcester	1983
Fall River	1986
Revere	1986
Methuen	1986
Lowell	1987
Salem	1987
Lawrence	1988
Northampton	1988
Lynn	1989
Boston	1989
Springfield	1991
Chelsea	1992
Somerville	1994
Brockton	1995
Malden	1996
Fitchburg	1997
Framingham	1998
Medford	1998
Waltham	1999

\*race-based plan replaced with a socioeconomic diversity plan in 2001

The BEEO played an important role in promoting integration. It continued to monitor, and issue annual reports on, the status of desegregation and other issues affecting minority students.

1995-Present

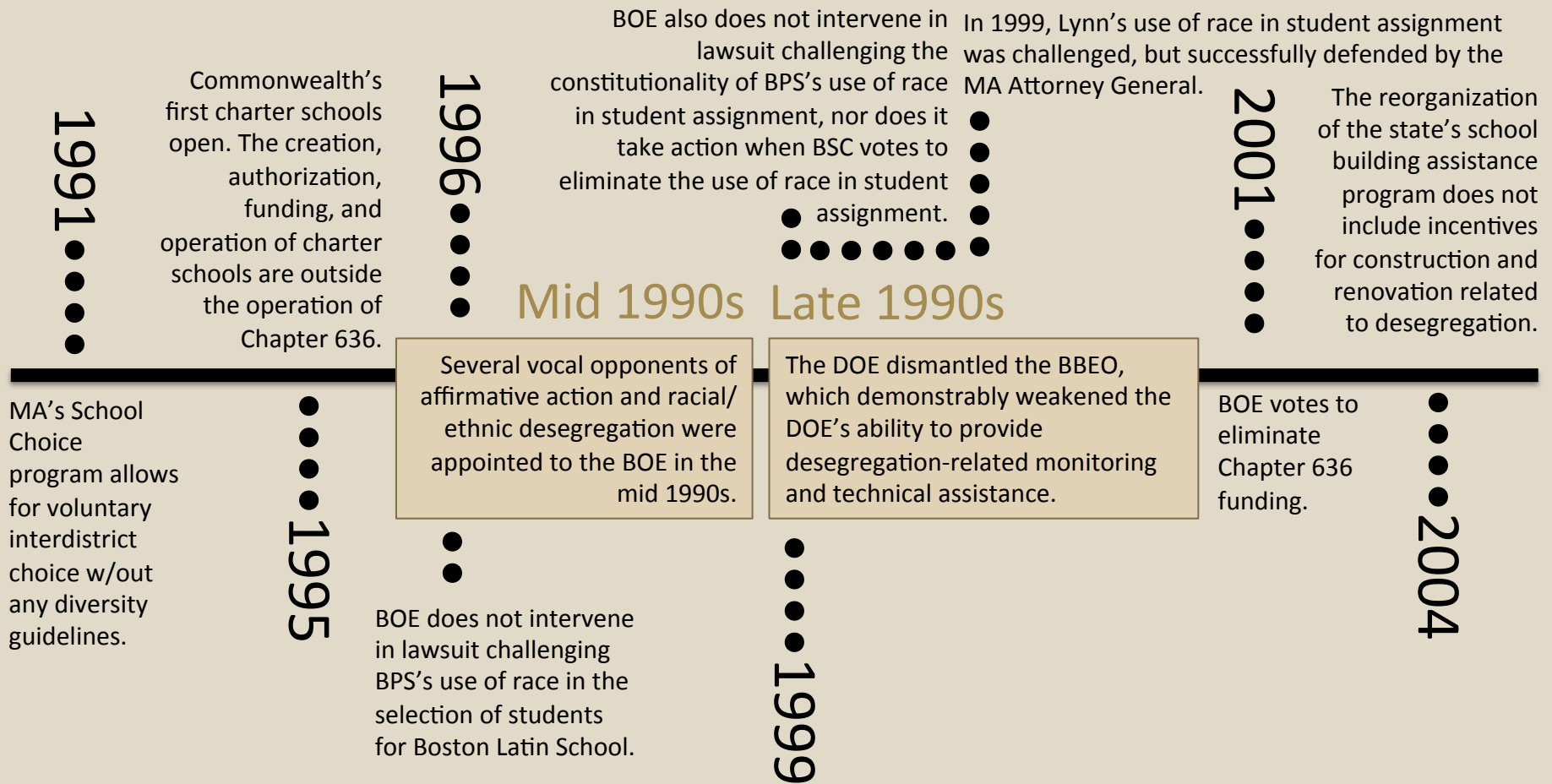


# THE EROSION OF THE STATE'S ROLE



4

# 1995-PRESENT: EROSION OF THE STATE'S ROLE



**State support for integration efforts has declined over the years, despite mounting research evidence that racial isolation and concentrated poverty are harmful to students.**