

Reclaiming the Promise of *Brown*:

THE INTEGRATION OF DESEGREGATION & SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM

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Stanford Univ, May 6, 2024**

Bring the
impacts of segregation
into focus

3 Myths of School Integration

1. We tried it for a very long time

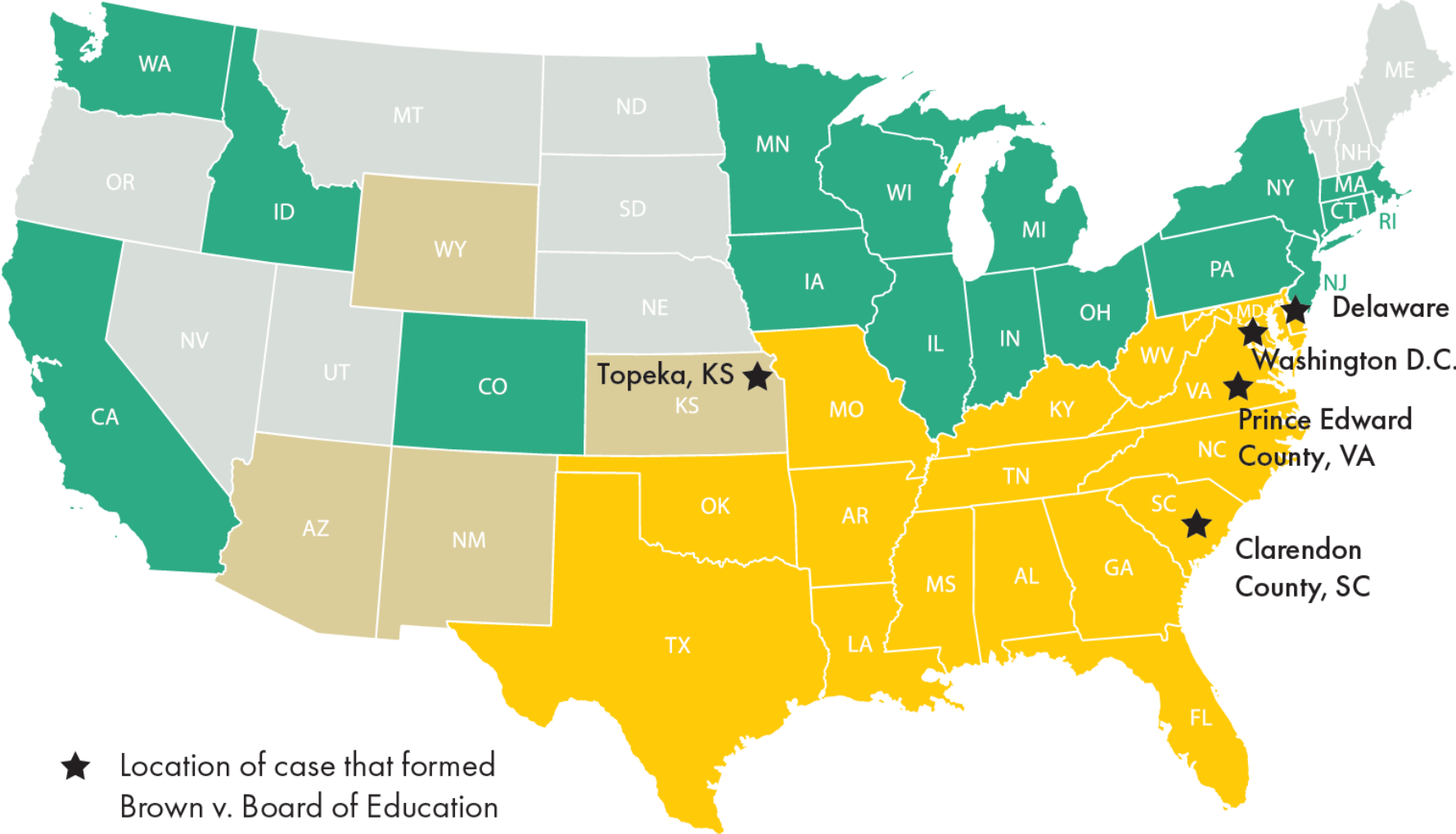
2. It didn't work

3. No longer relevant

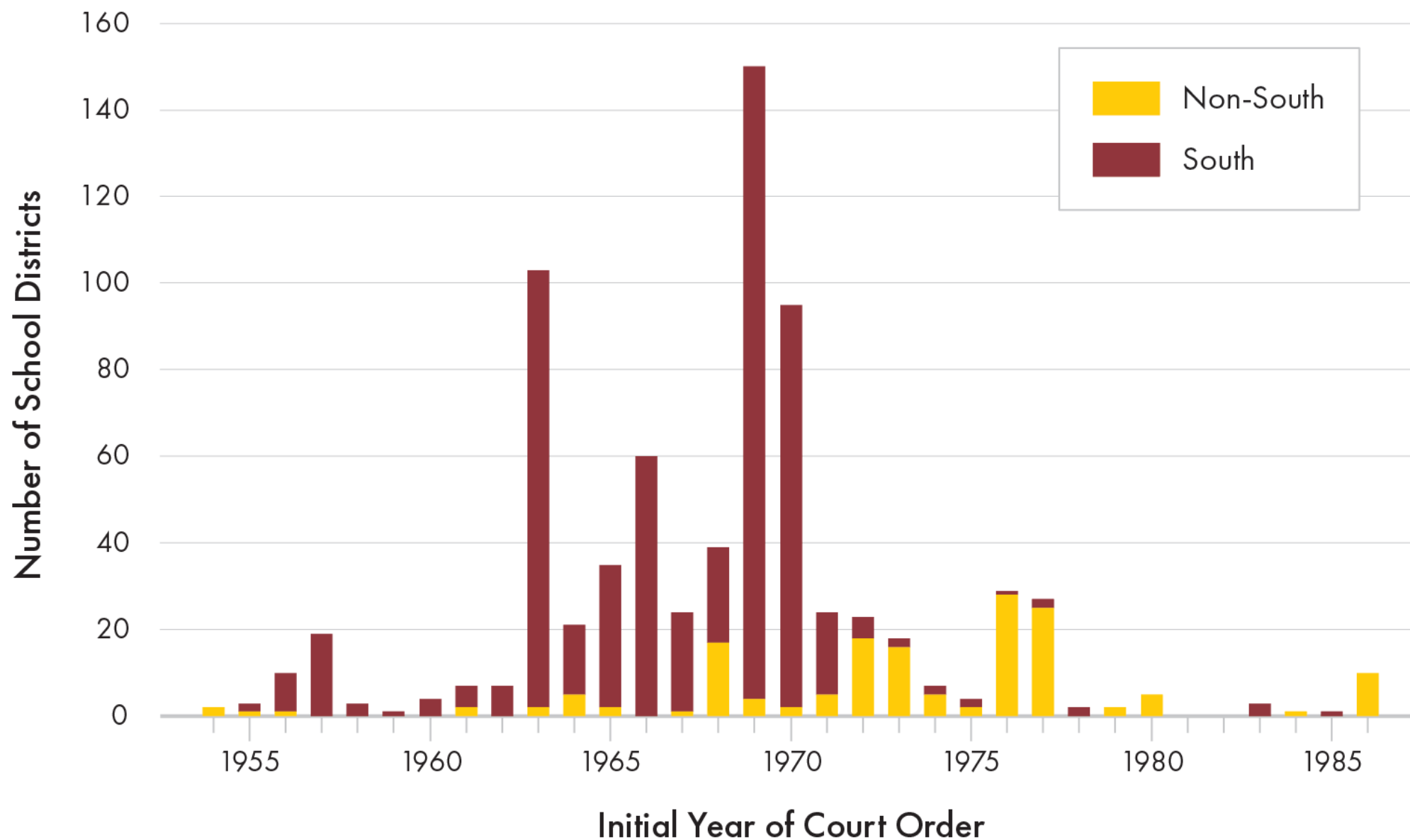
3 Truths of School Integration

1. We tried it for ~ **15 yrs**
2. It ***worked***
3. ***Highly relevant today***

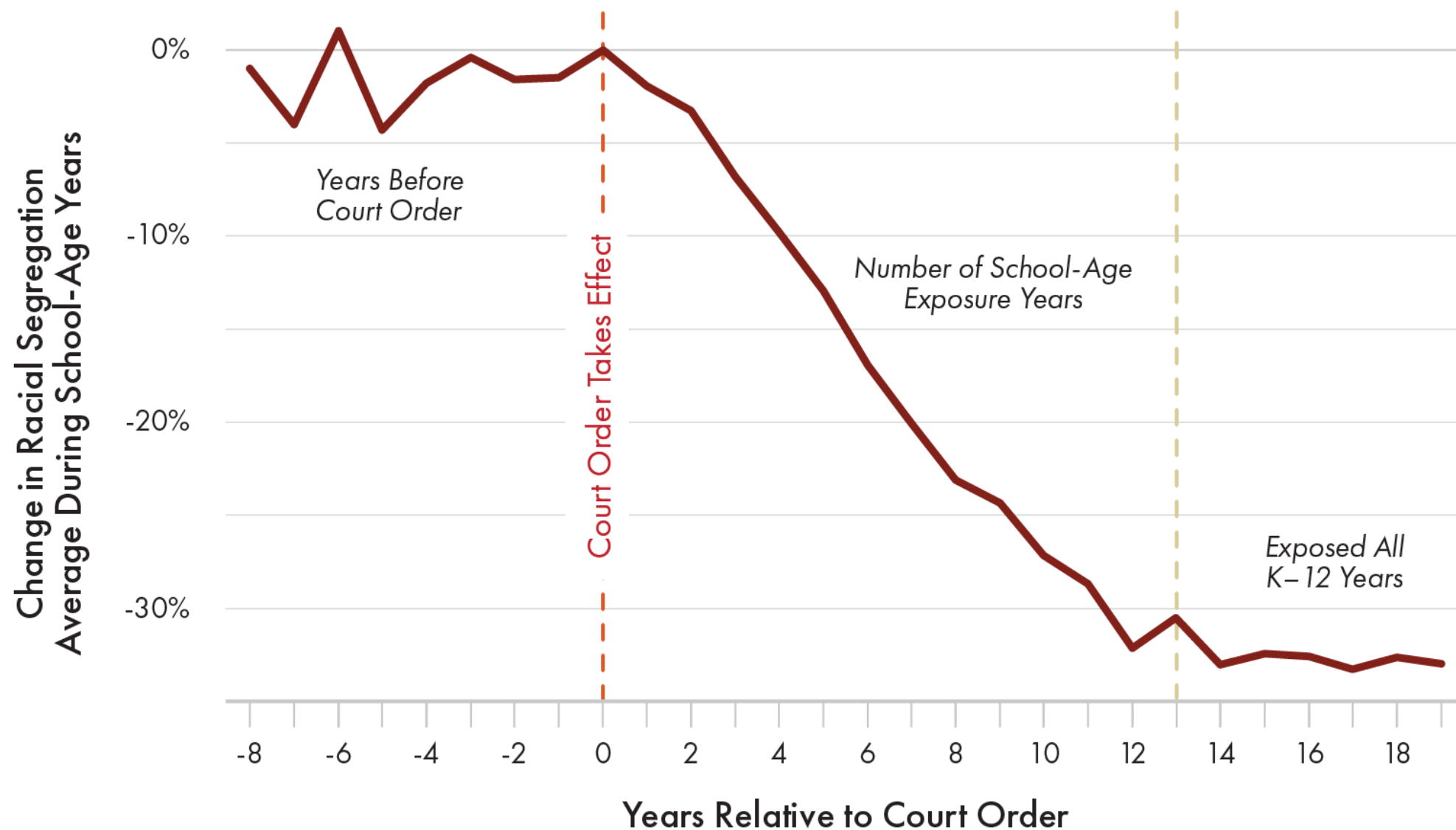
School Segregation, 1952



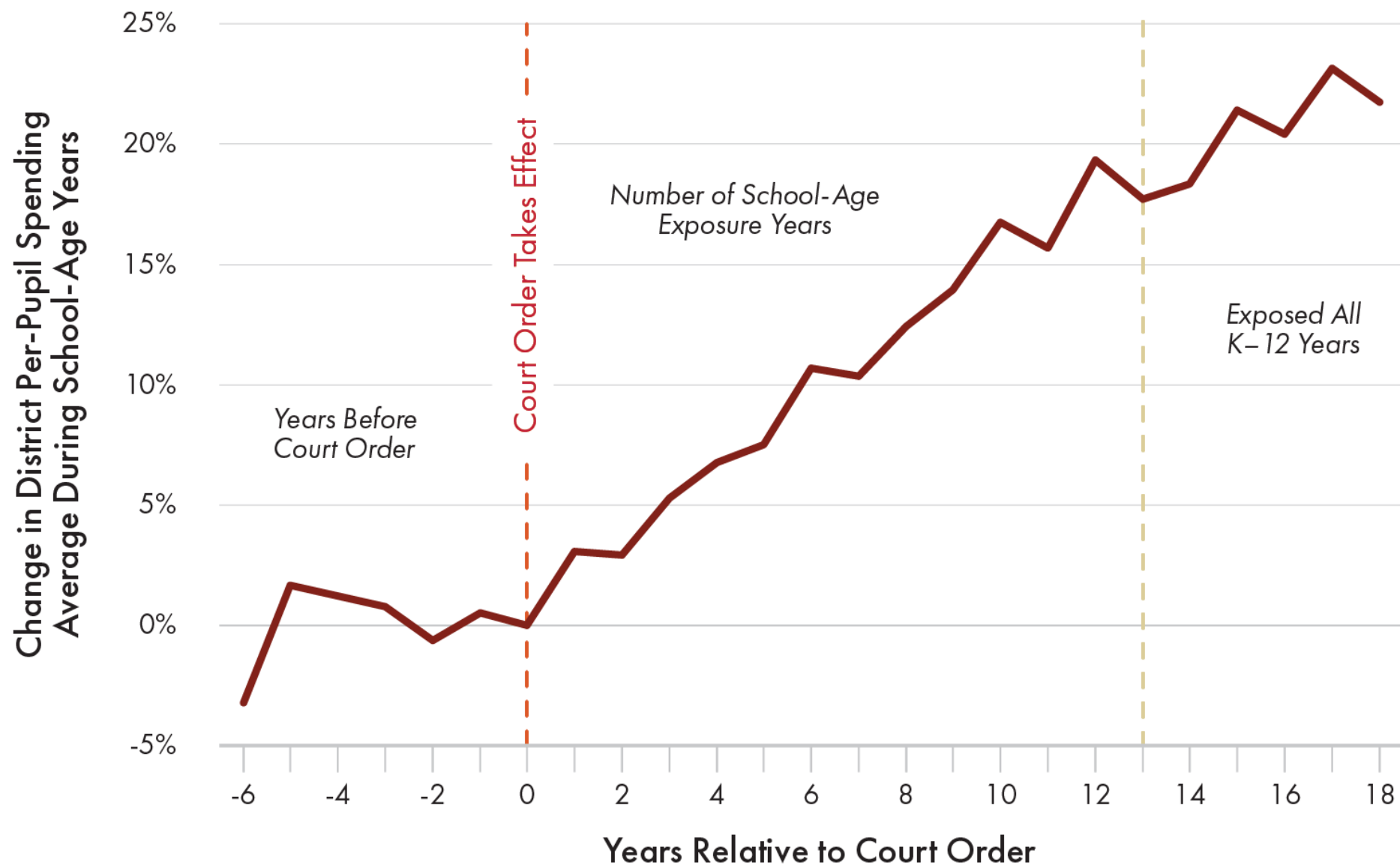
School Desegregation Court Order Dates



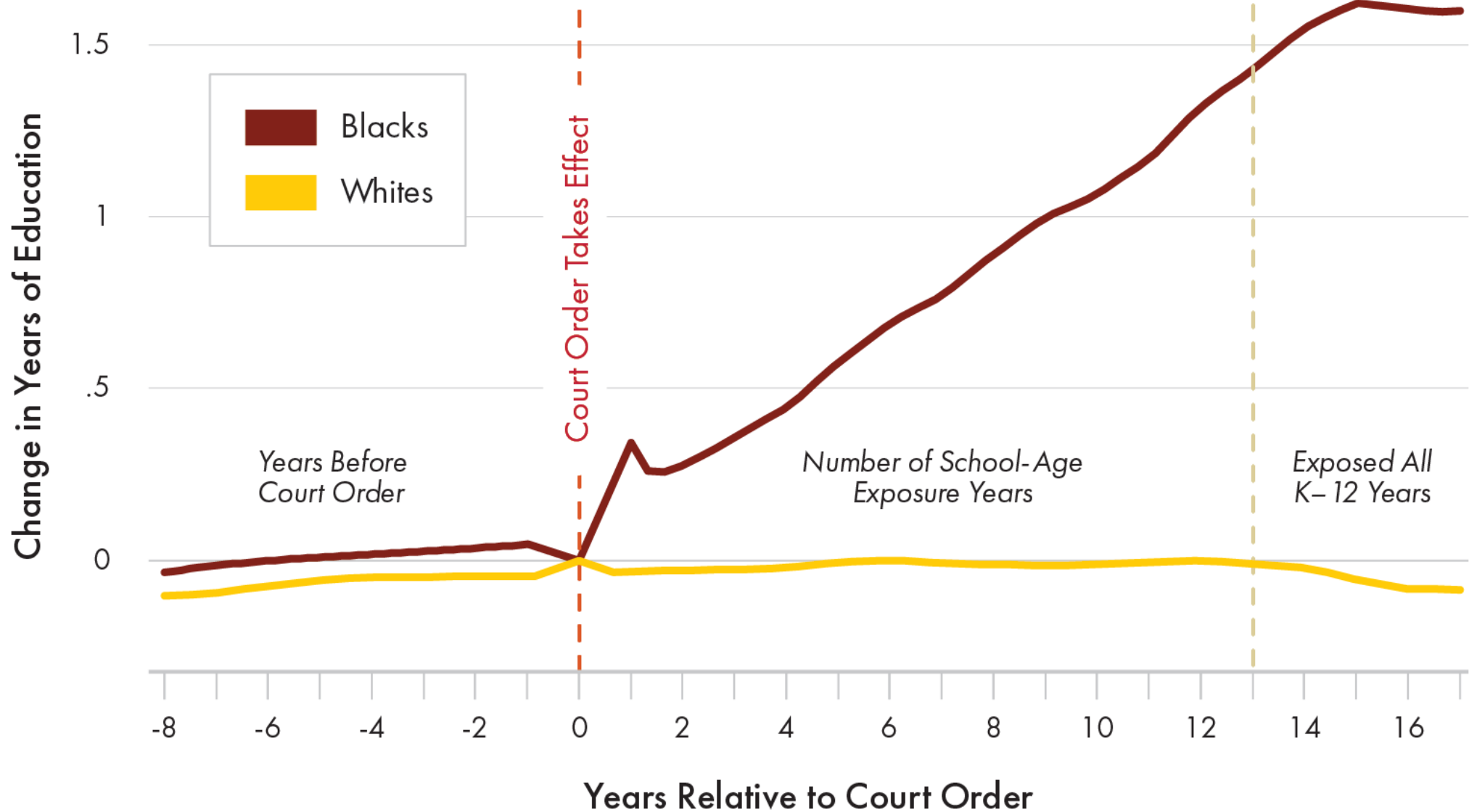
Effect of Court-Ordered School Desegregation on Racial School Segregation



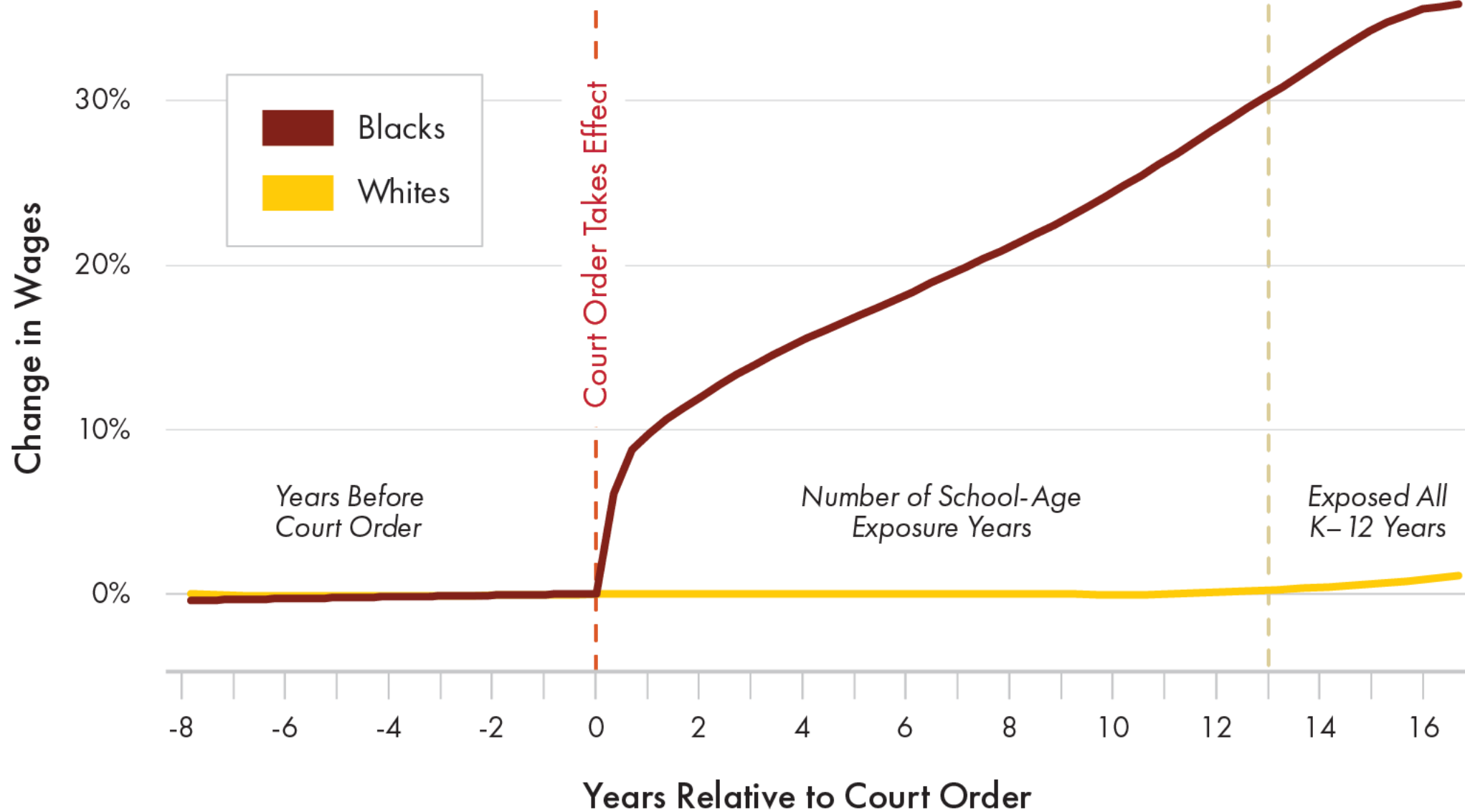
Effect of Court-Ordered School Desegregation on School Spending for Blacks



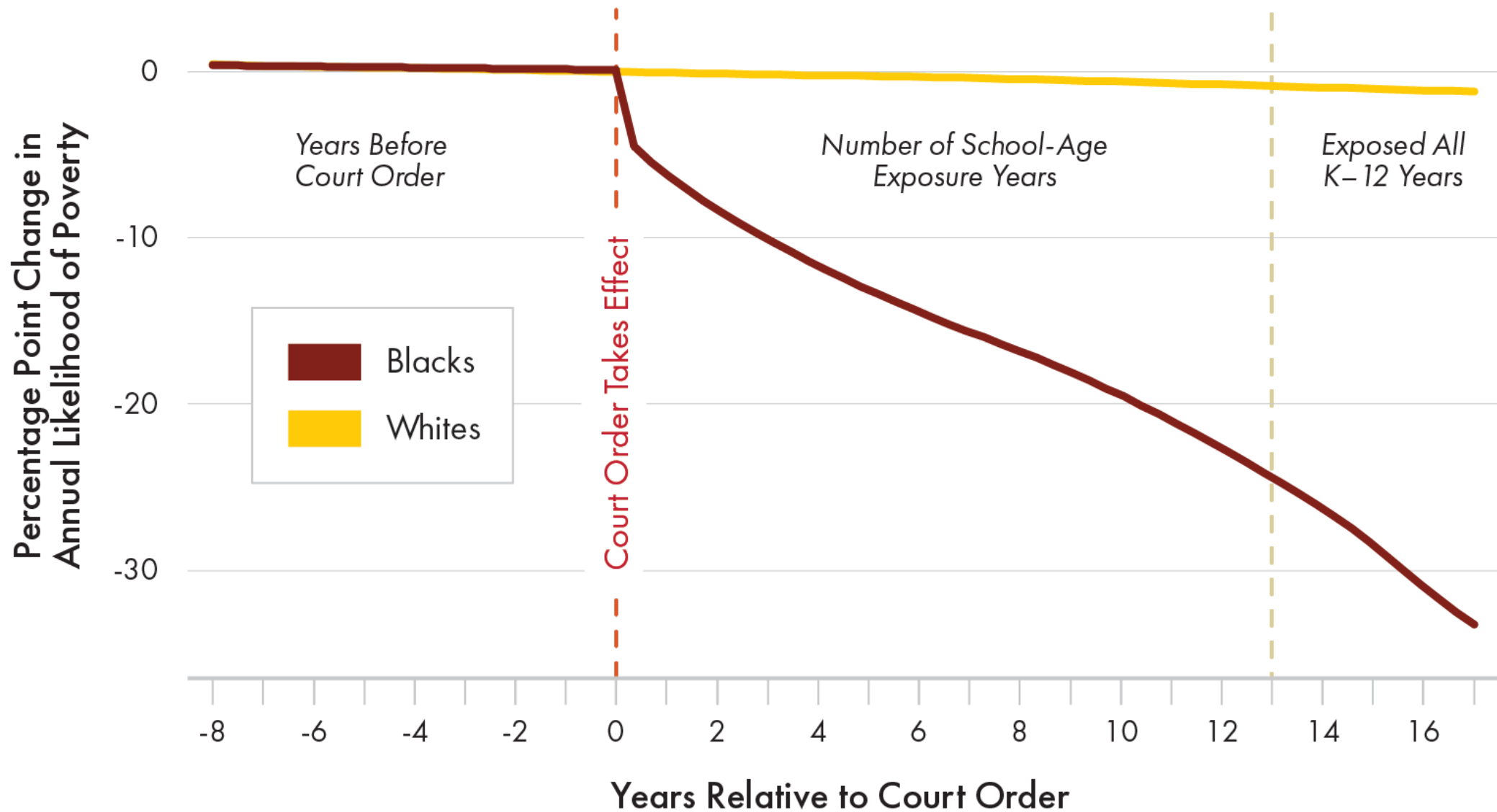
Effect of Court-Ordered School Desegregation on Educational Attainment, by Race



Effect of Court-Ordered School Desegregation on Adult Wages, by Race, Ages 20–50



Effect of Court-Ordered School Desegregation on Annual Incidence of Poverty in Adulthood, by Race



Long-Term Student Outcomes

Hispanic students also benefit from court-ordered integration. For Mexican-American students, participating in desegregation led to a **significant increase in educational attainment**.



Completed
nearly a **full**
year more of
schooling



20%
increase in
likelihood of
graduation

Source: *The Long-Run Impacts of Mexican-American School Desegregation*, Francisca Antman and Kalena Cortes (2022)

Why Integration Works: Access to Resources

“Improved school **resources explained a significant amount of the beneficial effects** of desegregation.”

When court-ordered desegregation did **not** lead to **meaningful spending increases** for Black children, the educational and socioeconomic **improvements did not materialize.**

Source: *Children of the Dream: Why School Integration Works*, Rucker C. Johnson (2019)

“

"People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other; they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other."

”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Contact Hypothesis

Acknowledging Concerns

Problematic Beliefs and Framing

- Valuing proximity to whiteness
- Assimilationist goals
- Predominantly black and Hispanic schools cannot provide a high-quality education

Black and Hispanic Student Experiences

- Long commutes
- Unwelcoming, unsafe schools
- Within school segregation and tracking
- Lack racial diversity of teachers

Impact on Communities of Color

- Loss of schools as neighborhood centers
- Elimination of highly-valued jobs for black teachers

School Segregation & Resource Equity

School and district boundaries that segregate students by race and socioeconomic status are **major impediments to resource equity**.

Segregation Increases Overall Cost

Adequately funding schools with concentrated poverty is extremely expensive.

Segregation Increases Need for Redistribution

Redistribution is politically unpopular. State policy doesn't adequately address inter-district tax inequities.

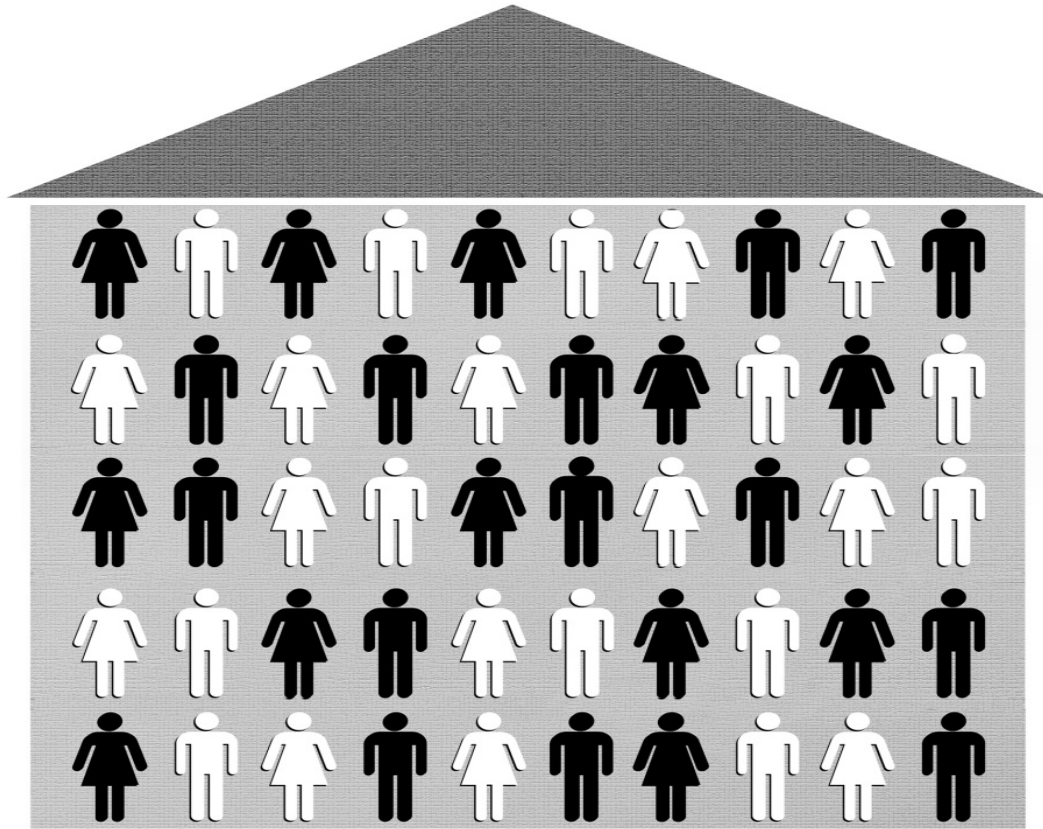
Segregation Ensures Funding Equity is Not Resource Equity

Teacher churn, insufficient access to rigorous coursework, and overreliance on exclusionary discipline remain.

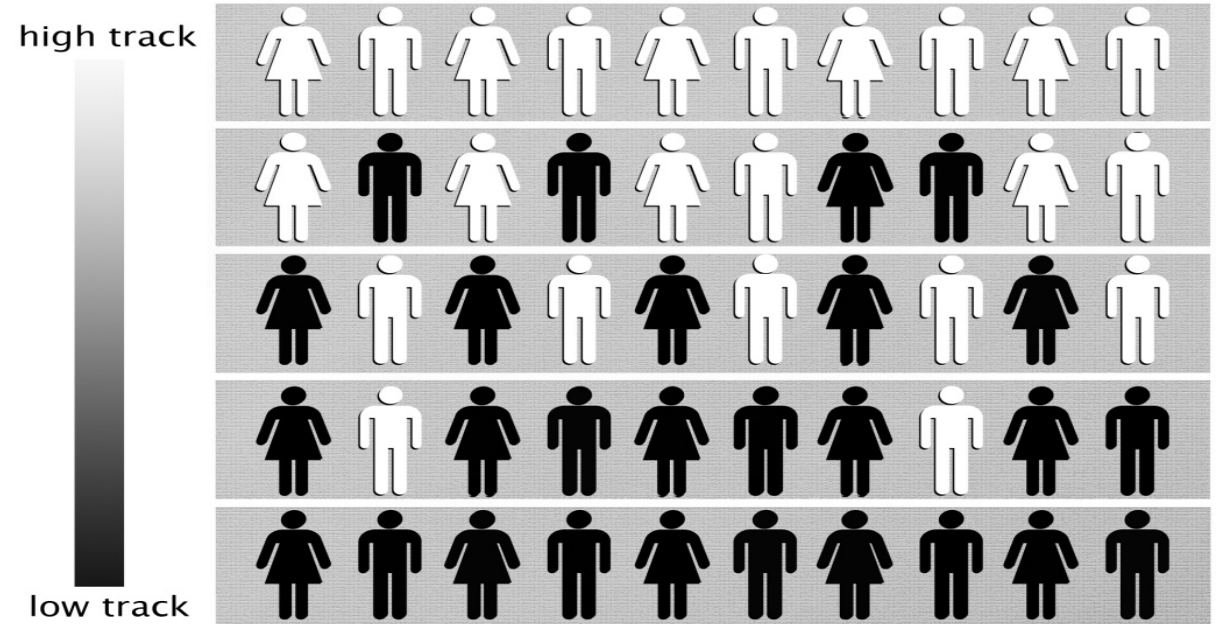
Contemporary Policy Influences on School Segregation



Desegregated Schools, Segregated Classrooms



Overall racial composition of magnet school



Segregation level of the classroom

Reimagining Equity & Excellence by Design

CHILDREN OF THE DREAM

WHY SCHOOL INTEGRATION WORKS

RUCKER C. JOHNSON

Thank you!!!
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