

Single Sex Classes - Who is it good for?

Written by Eryn Roberts
Wednesday, 11 July 2012 00:00



Issue: Single-sex classes began proliferating after the U.S. Education Department relaxed restrictions in 2006. With research showing boys, particularly minority boys, were graduating at lower rates than girls and faring worse on tests, schools were paying attention. In 2002, only about a dozen schools were separating the sexes, according to the National Association for Single Sex Public Education. Now, an estimated 500 public schools across the country offer some all-boy and all-girl classrooms.

Proponents argue the separation allows for a tailored instruction and cuts down on gender-driven distractions among boys and girls. But critics decry the movement as promoting harmful gender stereotypes and depriving kids of equal educational opportunities. Dozens of public schools nationwide are being targeted by the American Civil Liberties Union in a struggle over whether single-sex learning should be continued. The ACLU claims many schools offer the classes in a way that conflicts with the U.S. Constitution and Title IX, a federal law banning sex discrimination in education. Under pressure, single-sex programs have been dropped at schools from Missouri to Louisiana, but some states like South Carolina, have more than 100 schools that offer some form of a single-gender program. Parents can opt out, a choice required by law, if they want their kids in a traditional coed classroom, and students learn the same curriculum, they still lunch and play at recess together.

Question: Are single-sex classrooms beneficial to the learning process or do they do more harm than good?m.” Franklin isn’t the first coach to lay out criteria for his

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coaching staff. In January, South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier said he didn't want fat, sloppy, smoking bachelors gracing his coaches' room.



Kelly Kaufman

Why is having educational options available for your child a bad thing? Do people really think every child



Barbara Crawford

How does it create gender stereotypes if both classes have the same curriculum? I think this is a good id

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Miles Brock

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There is a lot more to public education than just learning math or reading. There is learning to interact w

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Monique Wilkins

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If males and females are so distracted in school to prevent good performance, then we need to separate

□ **{jcomments on}**

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