

#SaveYourVI

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT SCHOOL

PRESS KIT



**All students should feel
welcome & safe at
school.**

Who We Are

#SaveYourVI provides web-based resources that teach students how to protect themselves and that teach educators how they can make sure their schools are in compliance with Title VI, in order to promote an equitable and welcoming campus climate. Students have the federally-protected right to an education free from discrimination and harassment based on race, color or national origin under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. These protections are enforced by the US Department of Education (ED) Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

Our Mission

#SaveYourVI believes a future where all students will be able go to school in a welcoming and safe environment free from racial harassment discriminatory practices. Through Title VI awareness and the empowerment of students, educators and caregivers we can make equity in education possible.

Our Vision

We can make equity in education a reality for all students by raising awareness, compiling information and resources, and inciting action to secure Title VI rights in school, whether we are students, caregivers, or educators.

#SaveYourVI

LET'S LOOK AT THE NUMBERS:

3.8X*

#SaveYourVI addresses issues of systemic racial discrimination. Black K-12 students are 3.8 times as likely to receive one or more out-of-school suspensions as white students. Black girls are 8% of enrolled students, but 13% of students receiving one or more out-of-school suspensions. Girls of other races did not disproportionately receive one or more out-of-school suspensions. **More on discriminatory discipline at SaveYourVI.org.**

2,439*

#SaveYourVI addresses incidents of racial harassment. The OCR received 2,439 complaints of race or national origin-based discrimination including harassment in fiscal year 2016. 542 of those complaints included racial harassment. **More on racial harassment at SaveYourVI.org.**

563/16,720*

#SaveYourVI addresses policy changes at the federal level (ED and OCR). OCR staff has been cut by nearly half down to 563 employees since 1981, while complaints increased nearly 6 fold from 2,887 in 1981 to 16,720 in fiscal year 2016. This trend is expected to continue under the current administration. We work to implement statewide legislation that will protect students where federal protections have been stripped or disabled. **More on defunding the OCR at SaveYourVI.org.**

*From the 2017 US Department of Education Office for Civil Rights report (Fiscal Year 2016) "Securing Equal Educational Opportunity: Report to the President and Secretary of Education. See the entire report here:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/ocr/report-to-president-and-secretary-of-education-2016.pdf>

"Simple justice requires that public funds, to which all taxpayers of all races [colors, and national origins] contribute, not be spent in any fashion which encourages, entrenches, subsidizes or results in racial [color or national origin] discrimination."

- President John F. Kennedy on the Civil Rights Act of 1964