creationism and evolutionary theory
and who accepts or rejects one or
the other for any reason;

—Avoids any mention of religious
belief or religion, except in the con-
text of assuring the right of students
to hold differing values and beliefs;

—Defines "creation science" in
strictly secular terms;

—Acknowledges scientific prin-
ciples as the basis for any theory about
the origins of humanity.

The ACLU argues that proof of
unconstitutional intent to favor a
religious view can be found in the
lack of any formal factfinding by the
legislature. Plaintiffs also argue that
the law is tainted because it is mod-
eled after a draft prepared by funda-
mentals. Plaintiffs also argue that
"balanced treatment" precludes criti-
cism of creationism.

Trial has been set for October 26.
It is likely that the state will stress
the secular purpose recited in the
law, and will argue that it is inap-
propriate for the courts to inquire
into legislators' underlying motives.
The state will probably also argue
that the source of lobbying pressure
on legislators is irrelevant, as it was
when the U.S. Supreme Court up-
held the Hyde Amendment (restrict-
ing the use of federal funds for abor-
tion). Finally, the state will probably
respond that balanced treatment re-
quires just that; and does not preclude
criticism of creationism.

This report, published in April
1980 by the National Center for

Education for Pluralism

CARL GRANT AND
MAX ROSENBERG

MEDICAL SCIENCE AND
MINORITIES

In the United States minorities are
woefully underrepresented in the
medical science fields. What can be
done about it?

To help this situation a federal
project was developed that encour-
aged minority students—Black, His-
panic, Native American, and Ori-
tal—to consider careers in the bi-
omedical sciences.

During the summer of 1980 some
200 high school students—outstand-
ing academically and with special in-
terest in science—were assigned to
work in a number of medical research
laboratories. Without this unusual
opportunity it is unlikely that any of
these young people would have con-
sidered employing their talents in a
career in basic research.

Source: Jemsen, Cheryl. "Going
to the Source." American Education
(March 1981).

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Some highlights worth recalling from
The American High School: A
Statistical Overview:

—In 1920 only 6 percent of non-
whites aged 25 to 29 had completed
four years of high school. By 1978 the
number climbed to 79 percent;

—In 1977 some 62 percent of the
Hispanic males and 55 percent of the
Hispanic females completed four
years of high school;

—Between 1970 and 1977 Blacks
scored the most dramatic improve-
ment in their dropout rate. It fell
from 30 percent to 20 percent.

This report, published in April
1980 by the National Center for

Education Statistics, is available from
the Superintendent of Documents,
U.S. Government Printing Office,
Washington, DC 20402.

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Note to Readers: The authors of these
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