L.A. School Board Discontinues Busing

(SPS) — With the California Supreme Court's approval, the Los Angeles school board in an unprecedented move voted unanimously last month to end its three-year, court-ordered busing for desegregation program.

Parents now will be able to decide whether or not they want their children at assigned schools or neighborhood schools.

A motion was filed by the United States Teachers of Los Angeles to overturn the board's decision, claiming that such a mid-semester transfer would "disrupt classes and create chaos." The motion was denied, although the board admitted the children's educational interests would best be served by continued enrollments at their integrated schools.

"It's better to go about desegregation on a voluntary rather than mandatory basis, since we can't really desegregate a public school system with a 77 percent minority student enrollment," Jerry Halverson, attorney for the school board, said. "Cross-town busing is self-defeating for Los Angeles because of the lengthy bus ride. Other programs such as the magnet school program and the voluntary transportation system have been more successfull."

The American Civil Liberties Union, representing minority school children, has asked for review of the ruling, claiming that the move is unconstitutional under the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause.

The Reagan administration has indicated that it will not press lawsuits to desegregate schools through busing, and legislation barring federal court involvement in busing cases appears likely, according to recent statements from Education Secretary Terrel Bell.

Minimum Wage In Danger

WASHINGTON (SPS) — The newest youth employment bill would allow employers to pay young workers age 16 to 18 any amount they wanted, even less than proposed sub-minimum wages.

The bill, introduced by the Chairman of the Senate Labor Subcommittee, Sen. Nickles, R-Okla., would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act so that teen-agers would not be covered by minimum wage provisions.

Nickles' bill has less support than other sub-minimum wage proposals, but would be more far-reaching if passed.

Nickles is not particularly committed to his bill, his press secretary, Paul Lee said. He is more than willing to compromise or combine the other options as long as the final legislation gives more teens the opportunity to work.

Announcements

The Seneca Falls Gallery will present "stirrings . . .," an exhibit of etchings, relief prints and drawings by Marilyn De Lise, Joanne England-Woo, and Julianne Ricksecker.

This exhibit will deal with the artists' exploration of themselves and their environment.

An opening reception will be held Friday, May 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

The Gallery is located at 908 'E' St., downtown San Diego and may be visited 8:30 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.,Monday through Friday.

"Stirrings . . ." will run through Friday, June 12.

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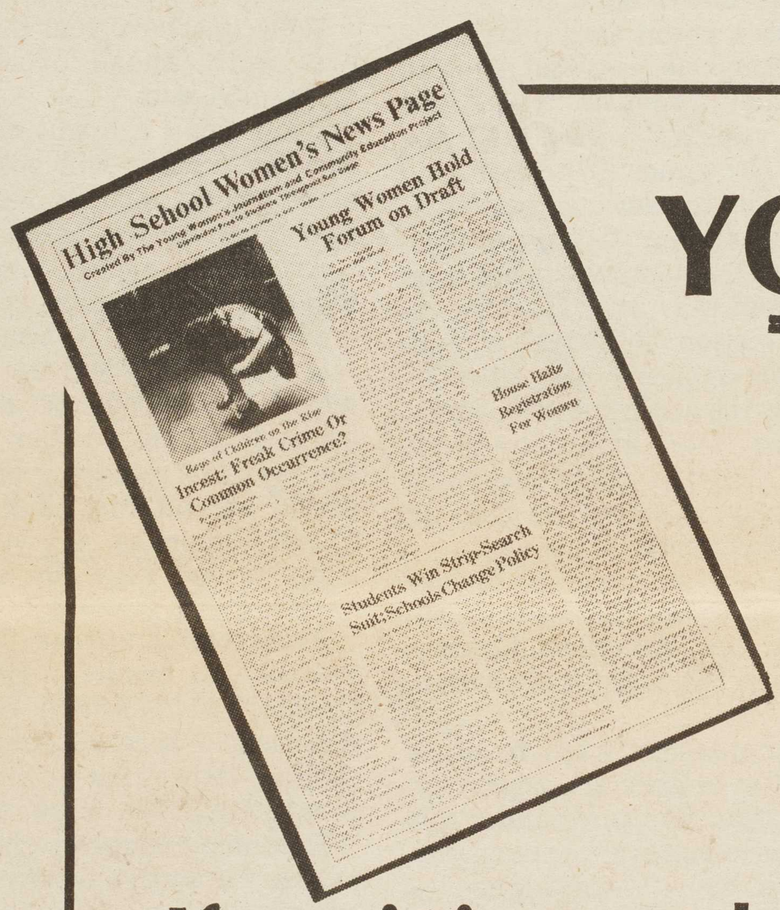
Teenage pregnancy and how young women cope with motherhood, with social pressure, and with continuing their education will be the topic of the next Youth Forum.

A panel of young women and counselors will discuss their own experiences and the options open to pregnant teens.

The event will take place in the Seneca Falls Auditorium, 908 'E' St., downtown San Diego. For more information please call 233-8984.



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