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Comments Received :

My name is Steve Sailer. I have been a full time professional opinion journalist with conservative leanings since the turn of century. One of my focuses is social policy analysis using big data. I find Sean Reardon's Stanford Educational Data Archive (or whatever it is now called) to be a god-send in providing me, an independent-minded journalist, the ability to do my own number crunching on many educational topics and not have to rely upon the leftist bias of so many professors in the field of education research.

I've written several articles about my findings, such as my May 4, 2016 one in Taki's Magazine, which began:

https://www.takimag.com/article/crevasses_in_the_classroom_steve_sailer/

"Crevasses in the Classroom
"Steve Sailer

"May 04, 2016

"Where are racial gaps in school test scores worst? Ironically, where liberals are most dominant.

"The new national database of school-district test scores created by education researchers at Stanford and Harvard reveals that the single widest white-black racial gap in American public school districts is in the city most synonymous with leftism since 1964: Berkeley, California.

"How badly do blacks lag whites in Berkeley public schools? Berkeley's white-black gap is 1.60 standard deviations. In other words, the median black student would score at only the 5th percentile if he were white.

"Yet, Berkeley is ferociously antiracist. It was the first to have a Black Studies Department at the high school level. In the 2012 election, Berkeley voted for Obama over Romney 90 to 5. Berkeley Unified school-district administrators obsess over any data showing that black students get punished more than other races.

"Still, the racial gap is bigger in Berkeley than anywhere else."

I returned to mining the Stanford test score database in 2019 and wrote:
https://www.takimag.com/article/san-francisco-vs-frisco/

"San Francisco vs. Frisco
"Steve Sailer
"July 3, 2019

"...As I pointed out in my 2016 Taki's column "Crevasses in the Classroom," a vast database assembled by Sean Reardon of Stanford's Center for Education Policy Analysis demonstrates that the biggest racial divides in school achievement are found in highly liberal districts. By Reardon's measure, the school districts with the biggest white-black gaps in test scores are: Berkeley, Calif., Chapel Hill, N.C., Evanston, Ill., Asheville, N.C., Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Ga., and University City, Mo., all intensely Democratic.

"In Berkeley, which voted for Hillary 90–3 over Trump, the average white public school sixth grader scores at a grade equivalent of 8.3, or 30 percent of his way through ninth grade. That's 2.8 grade levels above the national average for sixth graders of all races of 5.5."

It would be a shame for a conservative Administration to shoot itself in the foot by weakening such a valuable resource for conservative and other objective analysis of schooling.

If you have more questions about how I've used the Stanford data to come up with important, independent-minded findings, please contact me at steveslr@aol.com .