



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278

REGION 2

NEW JERSEY
NEW YORK
PUERTO RICO
VIRGIN ISLANDS

January 10, 2024

Sent via email only to: ameer@legalinsurrection.com

Ameer Benno, Esq.
The Equal Protection Project
18 Maple Avenue, Suite 280
Barrington, Rhode Island 02806

Re: Case Number 02-23-2241 - New York University

Dear Ameer Benno:

On July 14, 2023, the U.S. Department of Education (the Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) received the complaint you filed against New York University. You alleged that the University discriminated on the basis of race by offering a workshop series titled, "From Integration to Anti-Racism: How We Show Up As White Parents in Multiracial NYC Public Schools" (the Program), for white public-school parents only. Based on the information you provided in your complaint, information the University provided to OCR through its Rapid Resolution Process (RRP) under Section 203 of OCR's [Case Processing Manual](#) (CPM) (July 18, 2022), and publicly available information online, OCR is dismissing your complaint as explained below.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2000d-7, and its implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance from the Department. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department, the University is subject to Title VI and its implementing regulations.

The regulation implementing Title VI, at 34 C.F.R. § 100.3, provides that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program to which Title VI applies.

In support of your allegation, you provided a screenshot of the University's webpage for the Program, which stated that the University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development's Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools (the Metro Center) would host a series of six monthly workshops beginning on February 1, 2023, designed specifically for white public school parents in New York City committed to becoming anti-racist.

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

On December 19, 2023, the University informed OCR that the University's Metro Center offered the last session of the Program on June 7, 2023. The University stated that during summer 2023, the University's Office of Equal Opportunity opened a race discrimination investigation of the Program. The University suspended the Program during its investigation. The University stated that on or about August 22, 2023, it completed its investigation, and permanently discontinued the Program. The University further stated that in August and September 2023, the University provided Title VI training to relevant University staff members.

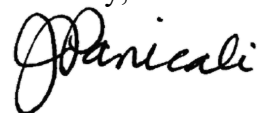
OCR reviewed the University's website and confirmed that the University currently is not offering the Program and all references to the Program have been removed. Under Section 110(n) of OCR's CPM, OCR will dismiss an allegation where it is moot or unripe. Because OCR has determined that your allegation is moot, OCR is dismissing the allegation and your complaint under Section 110(n) of OCR's CPM as of the date of this letter.

Please be advised that the University must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint against the University with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen McDowell, Compliance Team Attorney, at (646) 428-3735 or karen.mcdowell@ed.gov; Charles Skriner, Compliance Team Attorney, at (646) 428-3890 or charles.skriner@ed.gov; or me, at (646) 428-3796 or jocelyn.panicali@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Panicali". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jocelyn Panicali
Compliance Team Leader