

Video Title: Belton and Bulah VS. Gebhart: The Fight to End School Segregation in Delaware (05:03)

Video Description: This video features one actor and two voiceovers. It highlights sections of the Journey to Freedom exhibit at the Mitchell Center for African American Heritage in the Delaware History Museum. Throughout the video, the actor is standing in the Journey to Freedom exhibit.

Time Stamp	Heading	Audio	Visual	Subjects
00:00-00:15	[H1] Introduction	[no speech]	The video starts with a montage of clips from videos in the series concluding with the title of the video, for this one "Belton and Bulah VS. Gebhart: The Fight to End School Segregation in Delaware." The title is followed by text Redding, "Presented by," and then appears the Delaware Historical Society logo.	
00:16-01:14	[H2] Brown Vs. Board of Education	On May 17, 1954, the United States Supreme Court handed down its ruling in Brown Vs. Board of Education. Here's Chief Justice Earl Warren writing for the majority: "We conclude that in the field of public education, the doctrine of Separate but Equal has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." It was a landmark decision, but Brown was not the only case decided that day. Five cases involving segregation in schools had arrived at the Supreme Court that year, and all five were joined together under Brown. Two of those cases originated in Delaware. This is the story of Belton Versus Gebhart and Bulah vs Gebhart, two cases that shaped the course of history, and it's a story told in the Journey to Freedom exhibit.	The video starts with the actor speaking [00:16]. The video cuts to an image of Chief Justice Earl Warren during the voiceover reciting the quote [00:28]. The video cuts to showing the front page of the New York Times with the headline, <i>High Court Bans School Segregation: 9-0 Decision Grants Time to Comply</i> [00:37]. The video cuts back to the speaker [00:42]. The video pans the Journey to Freedom exhibit at the Delaware History Museum [01:11].	Brown Vs. Board of Education; United States Supreme Court; Chief Justice Earl Warren; Bulah Vs. Gebhart; Belton Vs. Gebhart
01:15-01:41	[H2] School Segregation in Delaware	Until the 1960s, most public schools in Delaware were segregated by race. Schools like Mount Pleasant, Ceasar Rodney and P.S. du Pont were open only to White children. African American families had limited options and only one choice for a high school, Howard High in Wilmington. Black families in Wilmington would often host Black students from Sussex County during the week just so they could attend high school.	The video shows a black and white, historic photograph of Black school students [01:15]. The video cuts back to the speaker [01:19]. The video cuts to show an image of Howard High School [01:33]. The video cuts back to the speaker [01:34].	Delaware schools; Mount Pleasant; Ceasar Rodney; P.S. du Pont; Howard High School
01:42-02:17	[H3] Ethel Belton	Ethel Belton was a student at Howard. Her 10-mile bus ride to school took an hour every morning and an hour back, but she wasn't allowed to attend nearby Claymont High. Besides the shorter commute, Claymont had much to offer: small class sizes, a spacious campus, and vocational training courses that weren't offered at Howard. And Ethel's mother was fed up: "We are all Americans, and when the state sets up separate schools for certain people of a separate color, then I and others are made to feel ashamed and embarrassed."	The video shows a black and white photograph of Ethel Belton, age 17 years [01:42]. The video shows another black and white photograph of Ethel Belton from Smithsonian collections [01:46]. The video cuts back to the speaker [01:49]. The video shows a historical image of Claymont High School and the students [01:56]. The video cuts back to the speaker [02:00]. The video cuts back to show an image of Ethel Belton with her daughter [02:06].	Ethel Belton; Claymont High
02:18-02:39	[H3] Sarah Bulah	Meanwhile in Hockessin, Sarah Bulah was fighting for her daughter's right to ride the school bus that carried White children past her house every day. She petitioned the Department of Education and the governor but was told Delaware would not provide transportation to Black and White children on the same bus. The Belton and Bulah families looked to attorney Louis Redding for help.	The video cuts to show the speaker [02:17]. The video cuts to a photograph of Sarah Bulah [02:21]. The video shows Sara Bulah's letter to the governor [02:25]. The video cuts back to the speaker [02:30].	Sarah Bulah; Department of Education; Louis Redding

02:40-02:53	[H3] Louis Redding	Redding had attended Howard High School himself before going on to Brown University and Harvard Law School, where he was the only Black student in his Harvard class. After graduation, he became the first Black lawyer admitted to the Delaware Bar.	The video pans the Journey to Freedom exhibit [02:40]. The video shows a photo of Louis Redding [02:43]. The video cuts to the speaker [02:46]. The video shows an image of Redding with another man [02:53].	Harvard Law School; brown University; First Black Lawyer Admitted to Delaware Bar
02:54-03:19	[H2] Belton and Bulah Vs. Gebhart	Redding took on both cases, citing individual members of the Board of Education in the suits, the first name among them was Francis B. Gebhart, as the cases came to be known. Redding took the case to chancery court where Chancellor Collins J. Seitz ruled that the Department of Education had not provided equal access and granted the plaintiffs immediate admission to the White schools in their communities.	The video shows the speaker [02:57]. The video shows the petition for the Belton and Bulah Vs. Gebhart cases [03:00]. The video cuts to the speaker [03:05]. The video cuts to an image of Chancellor Collins J. Seitz [03:08]. The video cuts back to the speaker [03:11]. The video shows headlines from newspapers announcing the verdict [03:18].	Francis B. Gebhart; Chancellor Collins J. Seitz; Department of Education
03:20-03:39	[H3] Delaware School Segregation Cases Brought to the U.S. Supreme Court in Brown Versus Board of Education	The ruling was a victory for the 12 students who were included in the cases but a narrow one. Seitz's decision did not apply throughout Delaware. Both sides appealed the ruling, and the Belton and Bulah cases ultimately joined four other NAACP cases brought to the U.S. Supreme Court in Brown Versus Board of Education.	The video cuts back to the speaker [03:24].	NAACP
03:40-04:07	[H3] Legal Outcomes	The high court's ruling in Brown did not result in immediate school integration, but it gave fuel to a civil rights movement that led to the disillusion of Jim Crow laws and eventually to the end of segregated education in the United States. The fight for equity in public education continues today in Delaware, where concerned educators and legislators have formed the Redding Consortium, named in honor of attorney Louis Redding.	The video shows a newspaper clipping with the headline, School Segregation Outlawed [03:40]. The video cuts back to the speaker [03:46]. The video shows a headline from the Journal - Every Evening, Segregation is Banned [03:55]. The video shows a statue of Redding in Wilmington [04:06].	Jim Crow laws; Segregation in public education; Redding Consortium
04:08-04:53	[H2] Striding Towards Racial Justice in Society	Thanks to a grass roots movement led by former students, the Hockessin Colored School will soon serve as a community center. At a 2020 ceremony announcing the plan, Collins J. Seitz, Jr. read an excerpt from a speech given by his father: "History teaches that despite the most legitimate grievances, long-range solutions in race relations must ultimately be found in the hearts of people rather than the courts, but this is cold comfort to those experiencing injustice. Nevertheless, good will and the relentless striding towards racial justice in our society remain vitally important charges on all of us if our deeds are to match our words."	The video cuts back to the speaker [04:08]. The video cuts to show the community center [04:14]. The video cuts back to the speaker [04:17]. The video shows an image of Chief Justice, Collins J. Seitz, Jr. next to the historical marker on the Hockessin school.	Collins J. Seitz, Jr.; Racial Justice; Hockessin Colored School
04:54-05:03	Outro	[no speech]	White background with text, "Delaware Historical Society videos have been funded by the Longwood Foundation, Delmarva Power, an Exelon Company, and a grant from the Delaware Humanities, a state program of the National Endowment of the Humanities." Below the text are logos for (left to right) Longwood Foundation, Delmarva Power, and Delaware Humanities.	