

1 Declaration of Cindy Barragan

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3 I, Cindy Barragan, hereby declare:

4 1. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to  
5 testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

6 2. I am 14 years old. I just completed my freshman year at Fremont High School in  
7 Los Angeles.

8 3. My school is too crowded. For my first semester I was not placed in an English  
9 class until three weeks after the semester started. Even though English class is required for the  
10 9th grade, I was not placed in an English class; instead, I had two class periods where I went to a  
11 life skills class. There were about forty students in both of the life skills classes so like for two to  
12 three weeks about five students had to stand in each class or bring in chairs from other  
13 classrooms. Some of these people didn't go to class at all because it was just too crowded and  
14 they didn't want to stand. I did not do anything in either of my two life skills classes for the first  
15 three weeks of school because the teacher was waiting to see if I would be transferred out of his  
16 class. The teacher did not want to waste his time with the students that were going to transfer out,  
17 so for the first three weeks of these classes, I and others with two class periods of life skills did  
18 not get any attention from the teacher. I tried to see a counselor to get transferred, but the  
19 counseling office was so crowded with other students trying to get their classes that you couldn't  
20 even walk into the office. It took two weeks to see a counselor and three weeks to get transferred  
21 to an English class. By the time I got into my English class I was really behind the rest of the  
22 class. For my second semester I was again not put into an English class when I received my class  
23 schedule. Instead, I had algebra for two periods. When I did receive an English class, I was  
24 placed in a different class with a different teacher from my first semester English class. Because  
25 it was a different teacher who had a different schedule, I read the same novel that I had read in  
26 my first semester English class again.

27 4. My algebra class does not have enough books for all of the students. Two people  
28 share one book in class, and we can't check the books out at all to take home. The teacher does

1 not pay attention to us. He simply writes notes on the board, gives us an assignment, and then sits  
2 down at his desk and reads the newspaper. I never have homework for this class. Everyone talks  
3 during the whole period because the teacher doesn't pay attention to the students and we all have  
4 to share books.

5 5. The bathrooms at my school are really dirty. Out of the four bathrooms for girls,  
6 only one bathroom, the one of the first floor of the main building, is open, and the rest are locked.  
7 So if you have class on the third floor and need to go to the bathroom, you waste a lot of class  
8 time because you have to go down two floors. If you have class in the bungalows, then you have  
9 to walk even further over to the main building. Sometimes there is no bathroom open because  
10 the one on the first floor is locked, so I have to find a security guard so that they can open it.  
11 Sometimes the bathrooms don't have toilet paper, and they always smell really bad. Sometimes I  
12 don't use the restrooms because they are so dirty.

13  
14 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United  
15 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 2 day of July, 2001 in Los  
16 Angeles, California.

17   
18 Cindy Barragan