

Study race composition in classrooms
Malaysiakini.com
March 30, 2007
Swen Teh

I read in the news of the desire of the government to integrate the three main races in national schools. People at the top insist that students of various races must integrate in school. But do they know that there are national schools where whole classes of students are of only one race ?

In a certain school that I know of, only the top three classes have a mix of the three races while the lower-end classes only consist of one race. The students in these classes do not have classmates of other races.

When queried, the school administrators just said that there are not enough students of a particular race to be put into the D and E classes. In other words, the administrators are saying there are no weak students of that particular race that can be put in D and E classes. Is that so?

Does the Ministry of Education check on streaming? How is it students in some national schools are streamed until all the students in D or E classes are only of a particular race? These students do not have opportunity to study with students of the other races; they feel ostracised.

Usually they also don't have teachers entering their classes. Is there a realistic integrity plan for students unity (Rimup) in national schools? If there is no Rimup for these national schools, why talk about Rimup for other schools located in the vicinity ?

I think the ministry should also look into the composition of races in each class in every form to ensure true integration among the races and realise the objectives of the Rimup plan.

Copyright © 1999-2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd.
Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/65280>