

# Why is education viewed as something unimportant to the majority of African-American high school students?

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## OBSERVATION

- Most students of color do not do their homework or assignments on time or at all.
- They do not pay attention in class and use their phones when they're told to put it away.
- I observed that students of color are at a higher risk of getting in trouble whether it be sent home or in school suspension.

## SURVEY

- My survey was conducted to answer my research question, or at least get me to an answer.
- It was diverse asking both male and female and was directed toward African-American students, 23 total responses.
- My survey was not effective, thus we turned to online research.

## FACTS

- Students from low income families tend to come to school behind their more affluent peers in terms of literacy and language development. They have a smaller number of words that they've heard and/or they understand. Reading is an essential skill that the African-American population should be proficient in. You could end up dropping out or failing high school or to even fall behind in middle school.
- A little more than half, 54% of African-American students of lower income students enter college.
- Surrounding plays a huge effect in a person's education because surrounding usually rub off onto and individual. Surroundings are a leading cause to the poor performance of African-American high school students because if a student hangs out with people who do drugs then they're most likely to influence the student to do drugs, which will lead to lack of school attendance and the inability of paying attention in school, etc. This is a reason why African-American high school students typically perform poorly in school.

## INTRODUCTION

There are many young African-American teenagers who tend to give up and dropout of high school at 31%. When African-Americans students give up and drop out is very damaging to not only themselves, but to those who look up at them as role models, like younger relatives. If these young teenagers wake up and realize that giving out on high school is one of the factors that lead to most of the Black community suffers today. These issues need to be resolved, and it starts with education. Education...knowledge...a key to success.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- I would inform schools who have students who are performing poorly in their academics and make the school send those students to their local library (where ever we set up our discussions).
- I would set up group discussions to discuss this issue.
- These discussions could be every weekend at a local library in the neighborhood.
- Professors and students of dropout /thinking of dropping out will be involved. I would spend however long it takes because education is important especially to the black majority.

## MAIN REFERENCES

- <http://www.epi.org/publication/the-racial-achievement-gap-segregated-schools-and-segregated-neighborhoods-a-constitutional-insult/>
- <https://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/12/11/african-american-students-lagging-far-behind>
- <http://fortune.com/2017/05/03/high-school-graduation-rates-minorities/>