



## Resolution in Recognition of Kenneth Bancroft Clark

New York State Regent Emeritus Dr. Kenneth B. Clark was a groundbreaking educator, author, psychologist, and advocate for racial integration. Dr. Clark was the first African American elected to the New York State Board of Regents and served with distinction for 20 years from 1966 to 1986.

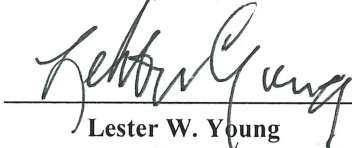
Over a distinguished career spanning more than 70 years, Dr. Clark's work, together with his wife, Dr. Mamie Phipps Clark, advanced our understanding of developmental psychology and the impact of race-based stereotypes on children's mental health. In the 1940s the Clarks administered a test that explored the psychological impact of racial segregation on children. When shown black and white dolls, black children who attended segregated schools were more likely than their integrated peers to say the black doll looked "bad" and the white doll looked "nice." When instructed, "Now show me the doll that's most like you," many of the black children showed preference for the white doll. In 1954 the U.S. Supreme Court cited the Clarks' findings in its decision of *Brown vs. Board of Education*, the landmark case that ended legal racial segregation in American public schools.

A champion of opportunities for the poor and disenfranchised, the Clarks founded the Northside Center for Child Development in Harlem in 1946 in response to the community's need for mental health services for low-income African American children. The innovative not-for-profit continues to thrive today in service of all children in need, providing expert mental health, education, and enrichment programs for thousands of families each year.

Dr. Clark was the first African American to earn a doctorate in psychology from Columbia University, the first to gain tenure at the City College of New York, and the first black president of the American Psychological Association.

Be it resolved on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February 2019 the Board of Regents honors Regent Emeritus Dr. Kenneth Bancroft Clark's lifetime of service to the people of New York State and the nation. May we continue to draw wisdom and inspiration from his legacy.

  
Betty A. Rosa  
Chancellor

  
Lester W. Young  
Regent

Chair of Regents Workgroup to Improve  
Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color



  
T. Andrew Brown  
Vice Chancellor

  
MaryEllen Elia  
Commissioner of Education and President  
of The University