

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTS OF SOCIAL PROMOTION

Social promotion is a contentious issue among professionals working within the school system today. Efforts to mandate educational standards and the problems associated with individuals who fail to complete high school have encouraged schools to end social promotion. At the same time, research suggests that students at-risk for academic failure face barriers that interfere with academic achievement, thereby reducing their chances of succeeding academically and graduating from high school.

This descriptive research study looks at the effects of social promotion on a group of predominately Latino students who were socially promoted into Sanger High School. The sample includes 31 socially promoted students who were matched by gender to a random sample of 31 nonsocially promoted students. The results indicate statistically significant differences in the demographic characteristics and rates of completing high school between the two groups.

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