

BILINGUAL EDUCATION, OPPOSE 227



What is proposition 227?

Proposition 227 is a law that would make all the bilingual students be taught in English. It states that all children in the public schools in Arizona and California, shall be taught only in English, unless a parental waiver is given to the school. This states that all children be placed in a English language classrooms instead of bilingual classrooms were they learn by using there own language. Bilingual students will go through sheltered English immersion, for a temporary, not exceeding one year. Once they have aquired a good grasp of the English language, they shall be transferred to English language mainstream classes. To read the offical proposition 227 [click here](#).



Problems With Proposition 227

The problem is not bilingual education. The problem is the way we teach are bilingual students. Only 30% of limited-English students in California are taught by there native language, plus English. Only a few schools provide a high quality bilingual program giving the students from all ethnic groups to master English and a second language.

In order to teach bilingual students English, schools must accomplish two things: instructing them in content areas, while at the same time helping them to master English. Experts say it takes a good five to seven years to learn the so-called "academic" english, which allows a student to succeed in school. This is true, however it doesn't matter if they are taught in English or there native language. But they do learn "playground" or conversational English in just a year or two. Schools that offer

some sort of bilingual programs help them maintain their subject area learning like, math, science, social studies. Instead of trying to learn the "academic" english in five to seven years. All English only schools tend to concentrate mostly on teaching them the English language. This means that after a year of all English teaching , students fall further behind their native English speaking peers, who are moving ahead of them and learning different subject areas.

This proposition can be argued from both sides. Both side have very good points, but we must figure out what's best for these bilingual students which are growing at a rapid pace. Here are some great web sites about bilingual education.

[Flexible teaching is the key](#)

[Bilingual Education: An Overview](#)

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