



GERARD ROBINSON

Gerard Robinson is the president of the Black Alliance for Educational Options. BAEO is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose mission is to actively support parental choice to empower families and to increase quality educational options for Black children. Prior to his position at BAEO, Mr. Robinson served as a senior research associate for the School Choice Demonstration Project at the University of Arkansas from 2006 to 2007, and as a senior fellow at the Institute for the Transformation of Learning at Marquette University from 2004 to 2006. As a senior fellow, he assisted in reform efforts related to Milwaukee's private and public school choice programs and provided testimony before the Wisconsin Senate and Assembly Joint Public Hearing on "Closing the Achievement Gap." Mr. Robinson also led a team that helped create the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded Quest nonprofit organization, and participated as a member of the Wisconsin team that worked with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) on a U.S. Department of Education funded project. This collaboration resulted in the publication of *Quality Charter School Authorizing in Wisconsin: Authorizer & Charter School Accountability Under No Child Left Behind* (April 2006). Mr. Robinson is a member of the National Model Charter School Legislation working group sponsored by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, and a member of the advisory committee for The Program on Education Policy and Governance at Harvard University.

Mr. Robinson's publications include: "The Color of Success: Black Student Achievement in Public Charter Schools," Issue Brief for the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools (2008); a biographical entry for Mayor Walter E. Washington and Drs. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr. and Walter J. Leonard in the *African American National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 2008); "Urban School District Takeovers: Theory and Practice," in *The Congress for New Urbanism Education Report* (2007); "More than Homework, a Snack, and Basketball: Afterschool Programs as an Oasis of Hope for Black Parents in Four Cities," prepared for the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation (2007); "A Survey of School Choice Research," published by the Institute for the Transformation of Learning, Marquette University (2005); "Freedom of Choice: Brown, Vouchers, and the Philosophy of Language," in D. Salisbury and C. Lartigue (Eds.) *Educational Freedom in Urban America: Brown v. Board After Half a Century*, 13-52 (Cato Institute, 2004); and "Can the Spirit of Brown Survive in the Era of School Choice? A Legal and Policy Perspective," *Howard Law Journal*, volume 45, 281-336 (2002). Mr. Robinson received a Master of Education degree from Harvard University, a Bachelor of Arts from Howard University, and an Associate of Arts from El Camino Community College. He is completing a Ph.D. at the University of Virginia. Scholarly interests include education policy and civil rights. He is married and has two daughters.