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the new definition of public education

"Diversity. Pluralism. Variety.... We cherish these values, and I do not believe it excessive to ask that they be embodied in our national policies for education."  
- Daniel Patrick Moynihan

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## Affluent and minorities split on school choice

by [Adam Emerson](#) on 04. Aug. 2011 in [Demographic Research](#), [Education and Public Policy](#), [Education Research](#), [General](#), [School Choice](#)

The authors of [the latest Education Next-PEPG Survey](#) highlight the growing disconnect between the general public, the affluent and teachers when it comes to sweeping public policies in education. But, just as notably, [the results](#) show a wide range of attitudes between the affluent, Hispanics and African Americans when it comes to school choice.

Vouchers have gained more support nationally since the [2010 survey](#), but support slips when the results are broken down by the affluent and by teachers. In some cases, the difference is stark among minority groups and the affluent, but those differences disappear when the policies (and the questions) change.

Depending on how the question was asked, as much as 60 percent of Hispanic respondents and 53 percent of African Americans supported vouchers compared to 47 percent of affluent respondents.

However, when it comes to individual or corporate tax credit scholarships, support among the affluent increases to 57 percent, which is the same result among African Americans and closer to that of Hispanics, a group that showed no difference in support among tax credits or vouchers.

Adam Schaeffer at the Cato Institute has more on the differences in support of vouchers and tax credits [here](#).

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1. Ken Winker 04. Aug. 2011 at 3:43 pm <#>

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