

# DON WILLETT ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

## Highlights:

- Don Willett opposed affirmative action.
  - Willett praised the U.S. Court of Appeals decision in Hopwood v. Texas, which challenged affirmative action.

## Willett Opposed Affirmative Action

### **WILLETT PRAISED THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS DECISION IN HOPWOOD V. TEXAS, WHICH CHALLENGED AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

#### Willett Praised The Decision In Hopwood v. Texas

**Willett Praised The Decision In Hopwood v. Texas.** According to an article written by Don Willett and T. Vance McMahan for the Stanford Law Review, “Hopwood has given Texas the chance to build a new vision based on affirmative opportunity for all instead of affirmative action for some.” [T. Vance McMahan & Don R. Willett, “Hope from Hopwood: Charting a Positive Civil Rights Course for Texas and the Nation,” Stanford Law & Policy Review, Spring 1999]

#### Hopwood v. Texas Ruled In Favor Of Four White Plaintiffs Who Challenged The Constitutionality Of Race-Conscious Criteria

**Hopwood v. Texas Ruled In Favor Of Four White Plaintiffs Who Challenged The Constitutionality Of Race-Conscious Criteria.** According to Ballotpedia, “Hopwood v. Texas was a case ruled upon by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in 1996. The appeals court held that the University of Texas School of Law could not use race as a factor in determining which applicants to admit to the university.” [Ballotpedia, accessed [6/26/24](#)]

#### Willett Wrote That Affirmative Action Had Failed

**Willett Wrote That Affirmative Action Had Failed.** According to an article written by Don Willett and T. Vance McMahan for the Stanford Law Review, “The courts and the public have rightly recognized that conventional affirmative action has failed.” [T. Vance McMahan & Don R. Willett, “Hope from Hopwood: Charting a Positive Civil Rights Course for Texas and the Nation,” Stanford Law & Policy Review, Spring 1999]

#### Willett Argued “That The Vast Majority Of Minorities Are Not Held Back By Racial Bigotry”

**Willett: “The Judgement Of History Is Clear That The Vast Majority Of Minorities Are Not Held Back By Racial Bigotry.”** According to an article written by Don Willett and T. Vance McMahan for the Stanford Law Review, “The judgment of history is clear that the vast majority of minorities are not held back by racial bigotry, but by fractured families and poor K-12 schools that deny them the credentials required to enter elite social institutions.” [T. Vance McMahan & Don R. Willett, “Hope from Hopwood: Charting a Positive Civil Rights Course for Texas and the Nation,” Stanford Law & Policy Review, Spring 1999]