In the autumn of 1965, eleven years after *Brown v. Board of Education*, sharecroppers Mae Bertha Carter and Matthew Carter enrolled the youngest eight of their thirteen children in the formerly all-White public schools of Drew, Mississippi. Their decision was in response to a "freedom of choice" plan -- a plan designed by the Drew school board to place the district in compliance with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 so that it would remain eligible for federal funds. Given the prevailing attitudes, Blacks were not expected to choose White schools. This proved true for everyone but the Carters.

THE INTOLERABLE BURDEN places the Carters’ commitment to obtaining a quality education in context, by examining the conditions of segregation prior to 1965, the hardships the family faced during desegregation, and the massive White resistance, which led to resegregation.

*The Film will be followed by a Q &A with the producer, Constance Curry*
Constance Curry is a veteran of the civil rights movement. She was the first White woman appointed to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee's (SNCC) executive board. After studying abroad as a Fulbright scholar and at Columbia University Graduate School, Curry returned to Atlanta in 1960. From 1965 to 1974, she served as a field representative for the American Friends Service Committee, working in Mississippi with Black families in school desegregation, and with community groups in voter registration and economic development. From 1975 to 1990, she served as Director of Human Services in Atlanta, Georgia.


Curry is a graduate of Agnes College (B.A. History) in Decatur, Georgia. She earned the degree of Juris Doctor from Woodrow Wilson College of Law in 1984, and served as a Fellow of both the Carter Woodson Center for Civil Rights at the University of Virginia and the Emory University Women's Studies Division.