



**APPELLATE DIVISION FAILS CHILDREN IN RULING ON EQUITY IN
EDUCATION SAYS GREEN PARTY GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE
STANLEY ARONOWITZ**

Aronowitz Says Court Paves Way for More Inequality in Education

New York, June 26, 2002 – The New York State Appellate Division ruling reversing a lower court decision that held New York State had failed in its constitutional duty to ensure “a sound, basic education” for New York City schoolchildren condemns thousands of low-income children to a learning environment marked by poor facilities, huge class sizes, and inadequately paid and overworked teachers, according to Stanley Aronowitz, the Green Party candidate for Governor.

“This is a retrograde decision that must be overcome,” said Aronowitz, adding that under the Appellate Division’s definition of “sound basic education” millions of kids will be unable to develop the skills they need not only to get decent jobs but, since knowledge is power, participate fully in public affairs.

“The real problem however, does not lie with the courts,” he continued “but rather with the failure of the governor and the legislature to fund schools adequately. We should not be relying on courts to meet the educational needs of our children. Unfortunately, our politicians are committed to tax freezes and tax cuts for the rich, an imperative which makes impossible providing a decent education for all the children of New York. Until the State of New York reorders its priorities and makes quality programs in quality facilities the norm, we will have failed our children at the most fundamental level.”

Stanley Aronowitz, sociology professor, labor activist, author and cultural critic, won the Green Party nomination for governor with over 70% of the vote at the party’s convention in Ithaca on May 25. Aronowitz and the Greens offer New York voters a broad vision of radical democracy that combines opposition to corporate power and the plutocratic corruption of politics with commitment to a sustainable environment, racial equality, feminism, gay liberation, and individual freedom. Aronowitz plans an intensive grass roots campaign that will raise the serious economic, social and ecological issues facing

the people of New York State—issues that the Democrats and Republicans have consistently failed to engage.

For further information about the Aronowitz campaign or to book interviews with the Candidate, call Riptide Communications, Inc. 212 260-5000.