

Samuel Halperin 1930-2014

Dr. Samuel Halperin was a widely respected national education policymaker for over six decades. As US Assistant Commissioner of Education for Legislation in the Lyndon B. Johnson administration, he was one of the chief architects of the landmark Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. As Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, he was also the Johnson Administration's principal liaison to Capitol Hill for the Higher Education Act of 1965 and a dozen other groundbreaking education laws.

From 1969 to 1981, he led The George Washington University's Institute for Educational Leadership and its professional development and fellowship programs operating in over 35 states. As study director of the William T. Grant Foundation Commission on Work, Family and Citizenship (1986-1993), he co-wrote the influential 1988 reports, *The Forgotten Half: Non-College Youth in America* and *Pathways to Success for America's Youth and Young Families*. "The Forgotten Half," a phrase he coined, refers to the majority of America's young people who do not complete high school or pursue career-related postsecondary education, and who consequently face dim economic and social futures.

Halperin served as President of the Institute for Educational Leadership and later, he founded the American Youth Policy Forum, both professional development organizations for policymakers in education and employment training in order to bridge the gap between research, policy, and practice in education and youth development, including preparation for employment and national and community service.

Dr. Halperin was the author or editor of a dozen books on the political process and educational policy issues and over 100 articles. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from Washington University St. Louis in 1956 and, over his career, taught at Wayne State, American, Duke, and Columbia Universities.

Over the years, Halperin served as a director or advisory board member of over fifty nonprofit organizations, including the US Peace Corps, Secretary of the Navy's Board of Education and Training, Center for Youth as Resources, Associates for Renewal in Education, DC Commission on National Service, Learning Matters on PBS, Council for the Advancement of Adult Literacy, and American Friends of the Israel National Council for the Child.

Dr. Halperin was twice awarded the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award of Jobs for the Future, Presidents' Medal of the George Washington University, Harry S. Truman Award of the American Association of Community Colleges, and Lewis Hine Award to Children and Youth of the National Child Labor Committee.