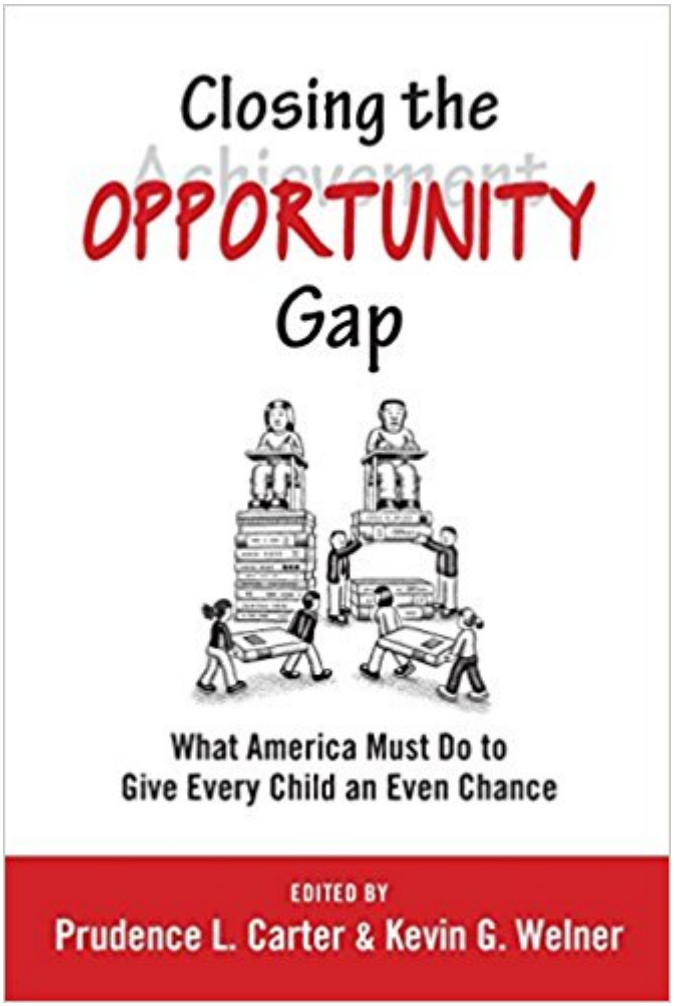
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Closing The Opportunity Gap: What America Must Do To Give Every Child An Even Chance



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Synopsis

While the achievement gap has dominated policy discussions over the past two decades, relatively little attention has been paid to a gap even more at odds with American ideals: the opportunity gap. Opportunity and achievement, while inextricably connected, are very different goals. Every American will not go to college, but every American should be given a fair chance to be prepared for college. In communities across the U.S., children lack the crucial resources and opportunities, inside and outside of schools that they need if they are to reach their potential. Closing the Opportunity Gap offers accessible, research-based essays written by top experts who highlight the discrepancies that exist in our public schools, focusing on how policy decisions and life circumstances conspire to create the "opportunity gap" that leads inexorably to stark achievement gaps. They also describe sensible policies grounded in evidence that can restore and enhance opportunities. Moving beyond conventional academic discourse, Closing the Opportunity Gap will spark vital new conversations about what schools, parents, educators, and policymakers can and should do to give all children a fair chance to thrive.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Schooling, at its best, is about creating new futures for our children. Closing the Opportunity Gap describes education as it is and provides a vision of education as it should be. The book provides a powerful critique of the educational and social policies and practices that exacerbate the widening economic disparity between rich and poor and the growing opportunity gap for too many of our nation’s youth. The authors’ analyses of educational inequity and their focus on opportunity to learn

offer a much needed blueprint and a new social imagination about schooling in the U.S." -Kris D. GutiÃƒÂ©rrez, Inaugural Provost's Chair and Professor of Learning Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder. "As policymakers and education leaders seek to pick up the pieces of a public education system tattered by No-Child-Left-Behind style reform, Carter and Welner's book brings clear-eyed analyses of failure and of future possibilities. In one highly readable volume, the nation's leading scholars provide evidence-based accounts of the root causes, everyday realities, and long-term consequences of the nation's weightiest educational problem-profound inequality in and out of school. And, most important, they offer comprehensive, insightful, and useful remedies. Those seeking new concepts and strategies for creating the public schools our diverse nation desperately needs and deserves need look no further than this astonishing book."-Jeannie Oakes, Director of Education and Scholarship, Ford Foundation

Prudence L. Carter is Professor of Education and (by courtesy) Sociology at Stanford University. Kevin G. Welner is Professor of Education at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Interesting analysis about education opportunity, instead of performance in standard evaluations (high-stakes). Education reform emphasizes performance in tests, while forgetting opportunity problems ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ poor children have lower scores in tests because they are compared to rich children; tests donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t say nothing about potentialities of those children. School has to care about individualized opportunity of students. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s nonsense to offer poor school for poor children.

A must read.

Great book if you're serious about looking at public education from a constructive perspective, rather than the same 'ol same 'ol reform perspective. Great condition of the physical book and fast shipping.

This book does a good job of highlighting why children from deprived backgrounds now have little opportunity to succeed in life and what needs to be done to provide them with the means to be successful. I wish this book was required reading for every state and federal politician.

The package arrived on time and pretty neat.

Very important distinction to close opportunity vs achievement

Book was clear and covered a multitude of topics and issues related to school and community quality and improvement, good overview for any reader.

The chapters in this book are written by a "who's who" in public education. Each one is thoughtful, well researched, and well written.

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