Chapter 1

Collaboration:
Academes, Government, and Community to Drive Economic Uplift and Empowerment

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ABSTRACT

Driving on the works of Dr. King, this researcher developed an integrated framework for understanding how engaged scholarship and civic responsibility organize into three diverse modes: social justice, economic opportunity, and educational uplift: prospectively, in real time, and retrospectively. The researcher unveils how these modes are generally positioned in an influential discourse of risk that lead organizations to reduce risk by controlling risk uniformly that propels the approval of certain risk conditions over others, and through the privatizing of certain key points of information. Besides identification of the communal manner risk is categorized in the three given modes, and demonstrating the manner in which risk is appended by influential discourse, the researcher purports different ways to organize risk that leads to demonstrated positive social justice, enhanced economic opportunity, and educational uplift. This chapter provides for academicians, community leaders, and government official enhanced knowledge about engaged scholarship and civic responsibility.

INTRODUCTION

The global financial crises hit the world market in 2008, according to Hardy and McGill (2016). A global hurricane ascended throughout the financial industry by way of the second-largest banking catastrophe (Lu, 2015). Throughout this economic


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Collaboration
decline, the United States’ financial housing economy, serving as the principal
investment for personal households, was forced to face a financial exposure that
left the world in quandary (Liou, 2013; Murphy, 2011, Lu, 2015). This predicament
affected the United States, and particularly, to this chapter, the State of Delaware. Put
forward by Norton and Watt (2014), today, young people continue to face massive
trials, and particularly when reared in urban environments. Also indicated by Norton
and Watt (2014), periling issues such as poverty, community and family violence,
as well as influences such as exposure to gangs and drugs menace nourishing and
wholesome development. The question is, “What does the data show as the market’s
effect on Delaware?”

The 2010 census for Delaware and New Castle County showed a population of
‘897,936’ [and] ‘538,477’ (United States Census Bureau, 2010; Geoscience News
and Information, 2016) respectively. Of all the three Delaware counties, Kent
County, New Castle County, and Sussex County (Muhammad, 2007; United States
Census Bureau, 2010) surveyed, New Castle County’s 19720 zip code reported as
having the highest poverty level, lowest test scores, and highest juvenile delinquency
(United States Census Bureau, 2010). The data showed startling specific indicators
of the 19720 zip code. Of the 25 years of age and over population, the United States
Census Bureau (2010) showed 39,462; of that number, 3,970, were estimated to
be below the poverty level, a percentage of 10.1. Also, the data showed 5,932 held
less than a high school degree (United States Census Bureau, 2010); of this number
1,253 were below poverty level, a percentage of 21.1. In terms of the number of the
civilian labor force 16 years and older, the census showed 30,367; of this number
2,125 were below the poverty level, a percentage of 7.0. The number of people
employed showed 27,285, 5.4%. The number of unemployed showed 3,082, 20.9%.
The poverty status for individuals showed 27.8%. The overall view is that of high
poverty, low test scores and juvenile delinquency.

Delaware’s strategic leaders, academic, government, corporate, and civic leaders
continue to ponder over what needs to be done to correct the ills of the effects of
the financial crises. Factually, the Route 9 area was a prosperous area for African
Americans, which included communities such as Garfield Park, Overview Gardens,
and Dunleith (the first DE housing development dedicated to African American’s
communities in the 1950’s). The financial crises, expansive suburban sprawl, and
other concerns changed the dynamics of the Route 9 area and it fell into hard times.
In an article by Wilson (2015), Councilman Jea Street was quoted as saying, “In the
‘50s and ‘60s, if you lived in Dunleith, you were hot stuff.” Also, Street said, “Black
and living in the suburbs, it was the life of Riley.” Today, with most businesses have
departed and left the area with a gap in basic services such as shops, grocers and
other services within walking distance. As per Councilman Streetett, In the 50s and
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