

Harvard Club - Box 126  
27 West 44th Street  
New York, NY 10036  
June 8, 2020

**Via FedEx Overnight**

Ms. Kathleen Kingsbury  
Editorial Page Editor  
The New York Times  
620 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Kingsbury:

**Re: CALL TO ACTION TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSE OF RACISM (VS. ONLY A MERE SYMPTOM) - AMERICA'S PERMANENT 30% UNDER-CASTE**

On May 11 and May 13, I sent the enclosed e-mails on the referenced subject to Mr. James Bennet that he requested on May 11. At 7:17 EDT yesterday (Sunday) I sent a follow-up e-mail. It was immediately rejected by an e-mail from The NY Times which stated that [nytdirect@nytimes.com](mailto:nytdirect@nytimes.com) is "no longer active."

I was the volunteer national treasurer of The "I Have A Dream"® Foundation in the 1990's that oversaw 178 programs in 51 American cities, each of which provided a tutor and mentor for each member of the third-grade class of an inner-city school (or third-grade cohort of a public-housing project) through high school graduation with the guarantee of college tuition. We achieved a 90% success rate despite typical SINGLE DIGIT high-school graduation rates for the classes just ahead and behind the Dreamer classes.

My own IHAD-Stamford (CT) project served 200 children in public-housing projects. I was also the co-founder in the 1980's of the first homeless shelter in Fairfield County CT. And during the summer of 1966 before my last year of law school, I was a member of the first U.S. governmental task force formed to dismantle the de jure dual school system of the 11 states of the Old Confederacy and the 6 slave states that President Lincoln persuaded to remain in The Union (during the course of which I was within 60 seconds of being assassinated according to the North Carolina State Police).

For the past 14.5 years, I have facilitated a 182-member monthly non-partisan public-policy study-action group in the vicinity of my Utah ski house that includes, inter alia, many attorneys and professors from around the country. It had mounted 47 "Six Degrees of Separation" e-mail campaigns to the nation's decision makers on various topics, many of which have been surprisingly effective.

My follow-up e-mail to Mr. Bennet of yesterday (Sunday) morning comprised a Heads Up that our group had just launched its 48th e-mail campaign, this one on the referenced subject. [Details are contained in the first item posted in Sec. 1 of [www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org](http://www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org).]

After you have reviewed the enclosed e-mails, I trust that you will decide to participate in the campaign by --

1. sending the already-prepared e-mails to the two presidential candidates;
2. forwarding the already-prepared e-mail package to your colleagues to do the same in an unending chain; and
3. if a representative of the New York Times is one of the Presidential Debate Moderators this coming fall, you will strongly encourage her/him to raise the issue during the debate.

You can reach us at [john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com) or [ReadingLiberally-SaltLake@johnkarls.com](mailto:ReadingLiberally-SaltLake@johnkarls.com).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John S. Karls  
JD, Harvard Law School, 1967  
Who's Who in American Law, 1988-2003  
Who's Who in America, 1988-2003  
Who's Who in the World, 1994-2003

----- Original Message -----  
Subject: Re: Opinion Today: The keys to unlocking human potential  
From: [john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com)  
Date: Sun, June 7, 2020 7:17 am EDT  
To: [nytdirect@nytimes.com](mailto:nytdirect@nytimes.com)  
Cc: [letters@nytimes.com](mailto:letters@nytimes.com)  
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Harvard Club - Box 126  
27 West 44th Street  
New York, NY 10036  
June 7, 2020

Mr. James D. Bennet  
Editorial Page Editor  
The New York Times  
620 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10018

Dear Sir:

**Re: CALL TO ACTION – ONLY 10 MINUTES NEEDED FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE – “SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION” E-MAIL CAMPAIGN TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSE OF RACISM (VS. ONLY A MERE SYMPTOM) – AMERICA’S PERMANENT 30% UNDER-CASTE**

There follow below my e-mails to you of May 13 and May 11 that you requested on May 11.

They led to a “Six Degrees of Separation” E-mail Campaign on the referenced subject mounted by a 182-member non-partisan public-policy study-action group that I have facilitated for the last 14.5 years.

This was our 48th e-mail campaign on various topics, many of which have been surprisingly effective.

It was directed at the two presidential candidates.

And will be followed by letters to the Presidential Debate Moderators (attaching copies of the requests being made currently to the two candidates) asking the Moderators to raise the issue during the debates.

The complete text of the “Six Degrees of Separation” E-mail Campaign is available at <http://www.discussingliberally-saltlake.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=23&t=1925&sid=0037fe2343db298e254cc32746b21906>.

I trust that you will decide to participate in the campaign by --

1. sending the already-prepared e-mails to the two presidential candidates; and
2. forwarding the already-prepared e-mail package to all of your colleagues to do the same in an unending chain.

BTW, studies of the few instances in which Magnet Schools have been tried, show that a student body containing 40% minority students is about the limit that affluent parents will tolerate before the affluent parents no longer are attracted by the outstanding nature of the Magnet School.

[Though if the limits were pushed at the college level rather than K-12, Harvard could probably go well over a 50% minority student body and affluent parents would still clamor for their offspring to be admitted.]

Accordingly, you can probably appreciate the magnitude of the challenge posed by America's Permanent 30% Under-Caste if all of their children are placed in federal K-12 Magnet Schools since simple math indicates that for them to comprise only 40% of the student bodies of those schools, 45% of America's total K-12 student population who become students in the Magnet Schools would have to come from outside the Permanent 30% Under-Caste.

Meaning, of course, that 75% of America's K-12 student population would be taught in the federal K-12 Magnet Schools.

Which would have massive ramifications as --

1. Most American K-12 education would be financed through the federal government, rather by local school districts which are largely financed by property taxes (which, of course, is what short-changed the inner-cities and created America's 30% Permanent Under-Caste).
2. Considerable expense as the physical plant of the Magnet Schools is constructed or, in many cases, utilizes existing school buildings that are no longer needed by local school districts (provided, of course, that such existing buildings can be brought up to a Magnet School level of excellence for physical plant).

However, it is respectfully suggested that the magnitude/expense of the challenge --

1. should be attractive to voters who are conservative in conventional political terms because it should be a cost-effective way of utilizing the talents of 30% of the American population that has been wasted for half a century; and
2. should be attractive to voters who are liberal in conventional political terms because, morally, "it is the right thing to do"!!!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Karls  
JD, Harvard Law School, 1967  
Who's Who in American Law, 1988-2003  
Who's Who in America, 1988-2003  
Who's Who in the World, 1994-2003

----- Original Message -----  
Subject: Re: Opinion Today: The keys to unlocking human potential  
From: [john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com)  
Date: Wed, May 13, 2020 4:15 pm EDT  
To: [nytdirect@nytimes.com](mailto:nytdirect@nytimes.com)  
Cc: [letters@nytimes.com](mailto:letters@nytimes.com)  
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Harvard Club – Box 126  
27 West 44th Street  
New York, NY 10036  
May 13, 2020

Mr. James D. Bennet  
Editorial Page Editor  
The New York Times  
620 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10018

Dear Sir:

Re: The America We Need and America's Permanent 30% Under-Caste

There follows immediately below our nearly-instantaneous response to your gracious request of Monday morning for comments on the referenced subject.

My nearly-instantaneous response mentioned that the next Zoom meeting on June 3 of a 175-member public-policy study-action group that I have facilitated for 14.5 years is focusing on "Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling in America" by Jonathan Kozol.

However, as the former volunteer treasurer in the 1990's of Eugene Lang's national "I Have A Dream"® Foundation that oversaw 178 projects in 51 American cities, each of which provided tutoring and mentoring for an entire third-grade class of an inner-city elementary school (or an entire third-grade cohort in a public housing project) through high school graduation with a guarantee of college tuition --

and as the sponsor of one of those projects that served 200 children in public-housing projects --

I had not yet as of last Monday formulated my proposal for how to address inner-city education and America's Permanent 30% Under-Caste that the U.S. Government has continually described for the last half century as illiterate as defined by the ability to read the warning label on a can of rat poison.

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My Proposed Solution???

Is set forth in the Suggested Answers to the Fourth Short Quiz posted on [www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org](http://www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org) earlier today --

Question 21

What is the ancient and long-forgotten concept of "magnet schools"?

Answer 21

Magnet Schools, in Educational Theory, were schools that pushed the percentage of inner-city children to the maximum that would be tolerated by affluent parents, BUT WERE SO OUTSTANDING IN TERMS OF FACULTY, PROGRAMS, FACILITIES, ETC., ETC., that affluent parents would still want their children to attend.

The reason why the concept is largely "long forgotten" is that taxpayers rarely, if ever, approve the necessary level of financing required for such schools.

Question 22

Would it be constitutionally permissible for states and/or school districts to establish so-called "magnet schools" in economically-depressed areas that are so outstanding that they attract students from nearby affluent neighborhoods?

Answer 22

So it would seem. After all, nobody is being forced to attend "magnet schools."

Question 23

Would parents/families in such a setting have a strong incentive to "adopt" a less-affluent student to tutor/mentor?

Answer 23

What do you think???. Let's discuss!!!

#### Question 24

Could admission of an affluent student (and the affluent student's continued enrollment) be conditioned on the affluent student and her/his family's tutoring/mentoring of a less-affluent student?

#### Answer 24

What do you think??? Let's discuss!!!

#### Question 25

Could this be a "blue print" for A TYPE OF "charter school" that the federal government could foster on a grand scale?

#### Answer 25

What do you think??? Let's discuss!!!

BTW, if the U.S. Supreme Court as the nation's highest (though unelected) legislative body, decides to interfere, there is a world of difference under the U.S. Constitution between what a state or locality is permitted to do, and what the U.S. Government can do. [Though this would mean some, and hopefully many, federal K-12 schools rather than the federal government funneling money to states and localities for K-12 education.]

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The entire Suggested Answers to the Fourth Short Quiz are available at [viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1921&sid=f637d48e ... 94f5cfbc85](http://viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1921&sid=f637d48e...94f5cfbc85).

Voluminous additional information is contained in --

(1) The Suggested Answers to the First Short Quiz available at [viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1909&sid=f637d48e ... 94f5cfbc85](http://viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1909&sid=f637d48e...94f5cfbc85);

(2) The Suggested Answers to the Second Short Quiz available at [viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1913&sid=f637d48e ... 94f5cfbc85](http://viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1913&sid=f637d48e...94f5cfbc85); and

(3) The Suggested Answers to the Third Short Quiz available at [viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1915&sid=f637d48e ... 94f5cfbc85](http://viewtopic.php?f=587&t=1915&sid=f637d48e...94f5cfbc85).

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Thank you for your consideration.

You can reach us at this e-mail address ([john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com)) or our group's e-mail address ([ReadingLiberally-SaltLake@johnkarls.com](mailto:ReadingLiberally-SaltLake@johnkarls.com)).

Sincerely,

John Karls  
JD, Harvard Law School, 1967  
Who's Who in American Law, 1988-2003  
Who's Who in America, 1988-2003  
Who's Who in the World, 1994-2003

----- Original Message -----  
Subject: Re: Opinion Today: The keys to unlocking human potential  
From: [john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com)  
Date: Mon, May 11, 2020 10:40 am EDT  
To: [nytdirect@nytimes.com](mailto:nytdirect@nytimes.com)  
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Harvard Club – Box 126  
27 West 44th Street  
New York, NY 10036  
May 11, 2020

Mr. James D. Bennet  
Editorial Page Editor  
The New York Times  
620 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10018

Dear Sir:

Re: The America We Need and America's Permanent 30% Under-Caste

Thank you for your e-mail of two hours ago on the referenced topic.

You might recall that when you were in college, the front page of the 6/21/1986 New York Times featured an article about how “a wealthy business executive or entrepreneur” would be “adopting” all of the graduating sixth graders at each of six of NYC's ghetto schools.

They were emulating what Eugene Lang had done 5 years earlier at Harlem P.S. 121 when he returned to his alma mater and, on sudden inspiration, promised the graduating sixth graders their college tuition if they would stay in school – and then provided each “Dreamer” with a tutor and mentor until H.S. graduation.

I was Gene's volunteer treasurer of the national “I Have A Dream”® Foundation that oversaw 178 similar programs in the 1990's and my own IHAD-Stamford (CT) served 200 children in public-housing projects.

Despite SINGLE-DIGIT high school graduation rates for the typical class just ahead, and just behind, each “Dreamer” class, our early IHAD programs duplicated Gene’s results – 60%-65% H.S. graduation - college matriculation rates.

And the later IHAD programs typically exceeded 90%!!!

[As the volunteer national treasurer, I noticed that the early IHAD programs had more than 90% of their male students succeeding but that approximately half of the females were becoming pregnant. And ascertained through further inquiry, that the reason why the half who had NOT become pregnant was that one of our tutors or mentors had become a surrogate parent AND HAD EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE DREAMER WOULD MAKE SOMETHING OUT OF HERSELF WITH THE IHAD PROGRAM AND IT WOULD “BREAK THE HEART” OF THE TUTOR/MENTOR IF SHE DIDN’T.]

I won’t deluge you with TMI at this point, but there is a wealth of information on the website of a 175-member public-policy study-action group that I have facilitated for 14.5 years in the vicinity of my Utah ski house – [www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org](http://www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org).

Its Sections 3 & 4 entitled “Inner-City Holocaust and America’s Apartheid ‘Justice’ System (In Honor of Jonathan Kozol and In Memory of John Howard Griffin)” contain zillions of legal documents relating to my lawsuits against 15 of the world’s largest financial institutions for the \$84 billion they owed me which had been long-since pledged in legally-binding fashion to provide IHAD- or IHAD-style programs for 10 million inner-city children. The “question presented for review” in our final appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court was –

“Can state court judges order their decisions which they know are diametrically-opposed to well-settled law, not to be published or cited (a strategy labeled ‘the segregated toilet’ in correspondence with 51 inner-city clergy who represent the 10 million inner-city children who have been disclosed from the outset as the ‘real parties at interest’ in this law suit) in order to flush away the rights of the 10 million inner-city children without disturbing the rights of first-class American citizens -- without violating the ‘Equal Protection of the Law’ requirement of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution?”

The Supreme Court refused our Writ of Certiorari.

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Our next meeting on June 3 via Zoom focuses on Jonathan Kozol’s “The Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling in America” (Crown Publishing 2005).

And the “book end” Supreme Court opinions in Plessy vs. Ferguson and Parents vs. Seattle School District No. 1 which, of course, sandwiched Brown vs. Board of Education.

But with, in mind, the Q whether America’s “Apartheid” K-12 education system – and America’s Permanent 30% Under-Caste that it has produced – can be ameliorated with free

college tuition and vocational training.

Additional info about our June 3 meeting is contained in sections 8-10 of [www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org](http://www.ReadingLiberally-SaltLake.org). [After the first 7 numbered sections, there is a cluster of unnumbered sections relating to each of our meetings for the last 14.5 years in reverse-chronological order.]

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We would be delighted if you could “shine a light” on America’s “Apartheid” (Jonathan Kozol’s term) educational system and its Permanent 30% Under-Caste.

You can reach us at this e-mail address ([john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com)) or our group’s e-mail address ([ReadingLiberally-SaltLake@johnkarls.com](mailto:ReadingLiberally-SaltLake@johnkarls.com)).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Who’s Who in America, 1988-2003  
Who’s Who in the World, 1994-2003

PS – I see that your older brother is Sen. Michael Bennet who was/is one of our heroes because of his championing of nuclear power which, in our view, is the only way of solving global warming (aka climate change) without having to invade other countries to force them to adopt uneconomic measures – such as invading China to prevent them from bringing on stream every week a monster-size coal-fired electric-generation plant.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Opinion Today: The keys to unlocking human potential  
From: The New York Times  
Date: Mon, May 11, 2020 7:55 am EDT  
To: [john@johnkarls.com](mailto:john@johnkarls.com)  
Reply To: [nytdirect@nytimes.com](mailto:nytdirect@nytimes.com)

The New York Times  
Opinion Today  
May 11, 2020

By James Bennet

Editorial Page Editor

Because the coronavirus pandemic has laid bare structural weaknesses in American society, Times Opinion (as I hope you've noticed) has embarked on a major project to envision The America We Need.

The first chapter, *A Nation Tested*, presented an overview of how rising inequality in recent decades made American society less fair and more fragile. It recounted how past generations of Americans, faced with crises like the one confronting us today, mustered the imagination and will to make the nation stronger.

Today we're beginning to roll out the second chapter, in which we're focusing on the life of American cities. The pandemic is dealing prodigious blows to cities across the country. But the country can't hope to thrive again if its cities don't. As our editorial argues, cities have historically "supplied the keys for unlocking human potential."

Cities not only provided shared, robust public infrastructure like schools, libraries and transit systems, they also stirred together vast numbers of people from different cultures and classes. Though American cities were beset by racism and other injustices, they fostered opportunity, invention, progress.

That was no longer really true even before the pandemic struck and intensified the challenges. As Annalee Newitz writes in her essay, as far back as the Bronze Age, once-powerful cities, and civilizations, have been brought to their knees by profound inequality.

In the editorial we describe how to repair these great engines of opportunity and set them to work powering America forward once again. In coming days, through charts, text and photos, we'll explore other dimensions of city life — from public schools to urban design — and propose further solutions. We'll investigate how to end homelessness, and consider whether this might be the moment San Francisco finally fixes itself.

The whole chapter will also appear in print, in the coming issue of the Sunday Review. I'd welcome your thoughts on this work, as always.