



Streetsmart Schoolsmart: Urban Poverty and the Education of Adolescent Boys (Multicultural Education)

Gilberto Q. Conchas, James Diego Vigil

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“If the cogent messages of this searing and compelling book are heeded and implemented by educational researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, our nation will be greatly enriched by the abundant gifts of young men of color.”

—**James A. Banks**, Kerry and Linda Killinger Professor in Diversity Studies and Director of the Center for Multicultural Education, University of Washington, Seattle

“This insightful, theoretically rich, and timely book helps readers understand why many young men turn to gangs and how schools and community-based organizations can counter the lure of the streets to expand opportunities for young men of color.”

—**Pedro A. Noguera**, Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education, New York University, and author of *City Schools and the American Dream*

“This book provides an important testament to the power we have to change lives and to the remarkable resiliency that brings hope in the face of hardship.

—**Rachel F. Moran**, Michael J. Connell Distinguished Professor of Law and Dean, UCLA School of Law

In *Streetsmart Schoolsmart*, two respected scholars present original research on youth gangs and school success to explain why some boys become disengaged and join gangs while others do not. Chapters vividly describe how urban boys from different ethnic backgrounds (Asian, African American, and Latino) approach schooling and identify the sociocultural factors that affect their choices. The authors concentrate on three areas: (1) the role of marginalized communities in the formation of urban gang youth, (2) the role of community-based organizations in reengaging urban youth, and (3) the role of schools in creating opportunities for urban boys to succeed despite disparities in their economic and social circumstances.

Streetsmart Schoolsmart points the way toward important changes that can break the cycle of poverty in American neighborhoods and society. It is essential reading for educators and all professionals working with urban youth, and anyone concerned with the success of young boys.

Gilberto Q. Conchas is executive director of the Career Academy Support Network (CASN) at the University of California, Berkeley, and associate professor of education at the University of California, Irvine. **James Diego Vigil** is professor of social ecology at the University of California, Irvine.

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