Challenging the American Dream
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Social Inequality, Dr. Rhubart

Ideology of the American Dream

1. Raw Talent
2. Right Attitude
3. Hard Work
4. Moral Character

Historical Causes of Residential and School Segregation

- 1950s: Manufacturing industries declined
- 1960s: Redlining, Blockbusting & White Flight
- 1970s: Drastic drop in manufacturing jobs
- 1989: Oakwood/Beavercreek School Districts declined to participate in a voluntary interdistrict open enrollment program

Consequences

- Lack of funding for Dayton City Schools
- Isolation of the poor
- Lack of connections to the elite, quality schools, and job opportunities

Marxist Theory- False Consciousness

- A state of mind that prevents people from realizing inequality due to their current situation
- Proletarians are not conscious of the extent of their inequalities
- This is a barrier to an equitable society

Possible Solution:
Develop a sense of class consciousness throughout the Dayton Area

“Because of segregation, we were a self-contained city within a city; all families seemed to work very hard [and have] high moral values.”
- Steve Ross

“Even though [my parents] were college-educated, [they] struggled to find jobs worthy of their education.”
- Bill Johnson

References:
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Rediscovering Our Values Facing Project Narrative by Steve Ross
Through Life’s Changes, God Provides Facing Project Narrative by Bill Johnson