

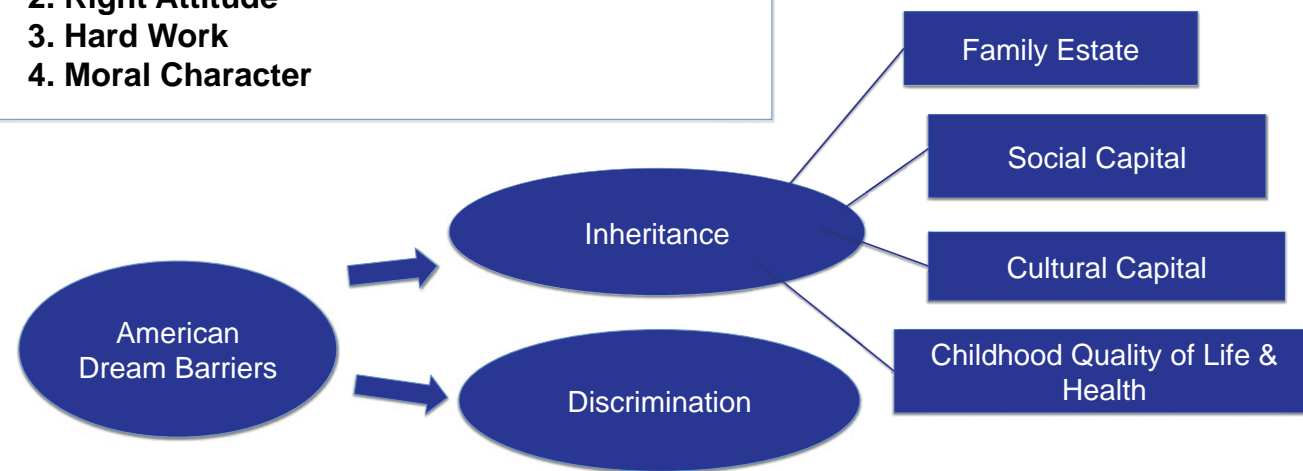
# Challenging the American Dream

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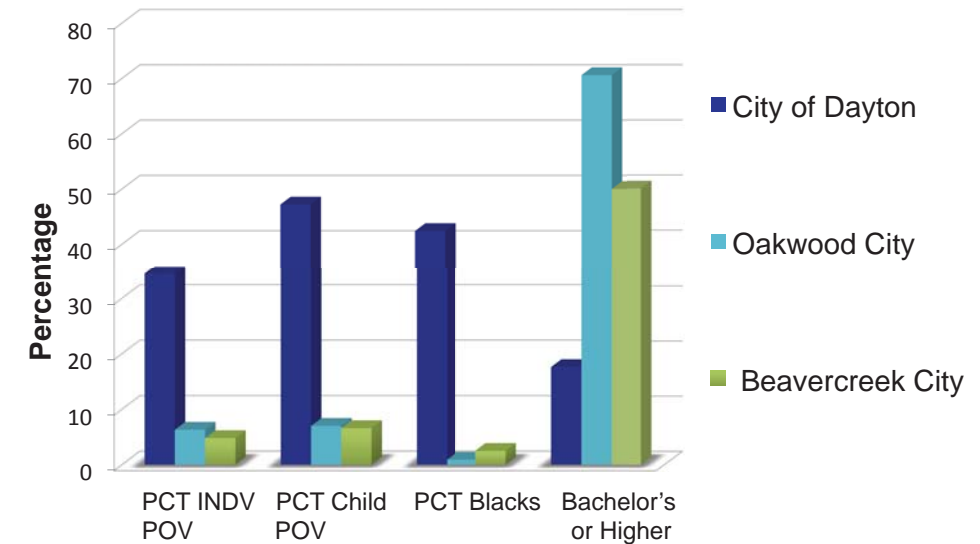
Social Inequality, Dr. Rhubart

## Ideology of the American Dream

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



Poverty, Race and Education in Dayton, Oakwood, and Beavercreek



## 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

“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

## Consequences

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

## Possible Solution:

Develop a sense of class consciousness throughout the Dayton Area

“It is easy to look back at the changes in Dayton and identify the problems that caused them. But I prefer to look forward and be part of the developments that improve the city.”  
-Bill Johnson

## 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

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