



## **The School Leaders Our Children Deserve: Seven Keys to Equity, Social Justice, and School Reform**

**George Theoharis**

"George Theoharis restores a vision of what it means to be a leader who is both democratic and committed to social justice. This is an important book that deserves a wide readership." —**Michael W. Apple**, University of Wisconsin, Madison

"A powerful guide for current and future school principals. Theoharis shows how these principals, over many years, implemented inclusive grouping, flexible

scheduling, rich curriculum, and a caring community to make social justice and equity for all students a reality. This is a book well worth reading and keeping!" —**Carl Glickman**, President, Institute for Schools, Education, and Democracy and editor of *Those Who Dared: Five Visionaries Who Changed American Education*

**George Theoharis** draws on the experiences and words of successful public school principals committed to advancing equity, social justice, and school reform to show why social justice leadership is needed and how it can be effective. Although facing tremendous barriers, these principals made important strides toward closing the achievement gap in their schools through the use of humane and equitable practices. Featuring a mix of theory and practical strategies, this timely book portrays how real school leaders seek, create, and sustain equitable schools, especially for marginalized students.

The author identifies seven “keys” that are crucial for social justice leadership:

**Key 1: Acquire Broad, Reconceptualized Consciousness/Knowledge/Skill Base**

**Key 2: Possess Core Leadership Traits**

**Key 3: Advance Inclusion, Access, and Opportunity for All**

**Key 4: Improve the Core Learning Context - Both the Teaching and the Curriculum**

**Key 5: Create a Climate of Belonging**

**Key 6: Raise Student Achievement**

**Key 7: Sustain Oneself Professionally and Personally**

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