

[\[Education Sciences\] Special Issue "Shrinking Opportunity and Achievement Gaps"](#)

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Dear Colleagues,

This Special Issue, "*Shrinking Opportunity and Achievement Gaps*", addresses the unhappy reality that educational proficiency and attainment can be predicted on the basis of factors that should be superfluous, such as race, ethnicity, social class and dominant language. The resulting gaps in achievement associated with these factors appear to be driven, in large part, by opportunity gaps that exist in the general society outside of school (e.g., income inequality, unemployment, absence of health services and insurance, absence of pre-natal care). Schools, however, strive to fashion instructional and organizational interventions capable of mediating the effects of these opportunity gaps, as well as correct factors in school culture, curriculum, and instruction contributing to gaps in both opportunity and achievement.

We welcome for inclusion in this Special Issue articles that: (1) provide a theoretical basis for narrowing gaps, (2) present studies (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed) that demonstrate effective gap shrinking interventions, and/or (3) describe practices that narrowed gaps successfully.

Dr. Robert G. Smith

Dr. Regina Biggs

Dr. S. David Brazer

Guest Editors

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