

Homeschooling Parents: A Class of Their Own

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Dr. Kathaleena Monds is professor of management information systems and founding director of the Center for Educational Opportunity (CEO) at Albany State University in 2018. The CEO provides support for K-12 research on educational opportunities for students living in fragile communities.

She served as co-director of the **Center for Economic Education** from 2007-2018; wrote the proposal to launch the **Center for Undergraduate Research** in 2009. Her research interests include the digital divide, black homeschoolers, and black girls in Computer Science. Her research focuses on understanding educational opportunities for marginalized populations.

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Kathaleena holds a Ph.D. in instructional technology from Wayne State University, a M.A. in economics and entrepreneurship for educators from University of Delaware, a M.S. in computer science from Wayne State University, and a B.S. in computer science from Spelman College. She is a first-generation college graduate and mother of four homeschooled students —two sons who graduated from Morehouse College, one daughter who will graduate from Spelman College, and one 14-year old son.



Homeschooling Experiences



Homeschooling Results





NCES

- 850,000 students were homeschooled in the U.S. in 1999
- 1.7M students were homeschooled in the U.S. in 2016

- 84,000 African-American students were homeschooled in the U.S. in 1999
- 132,000 students were homeschooled in the U.S. in 2016

Statement of Need:

**We need for all children the opportunities
we need for our own.**

What are fragile communities?

“Fragile communities in the U.S. are characterized by high proportions of residents struggling in their daily lives and possessing limited opportunities for social mobility. This conception is closely tied to the literature on concentrated poverty and disadvantage that became prominent by the mid-1980s.”

(Source: “The State of Opportunity in America Report” - Center for Advancing Opp.)





Key Issues

- Black Homeschoolers
- Creative Destruction
- Regulations
- Tax Credits
- Dubosian Theory
- Geography of Opportunity



Black Homeschooling

- Environmental issues
 - Racial intolerance
 - Work not challenging enough
 - Parental experiences
 - Cultural and religious values
- 



Creative Destruction

- Rethinking access to teacher certification for parents
- Rethinking community's role in supporting family's educational choices
- Rethinking the need to collaborate vs. compete



Regulations

“Launch ban on home schooling with the burden on parents to demonstrate justification for permission to homeschool.” - Harvard Professor Elizabeth Bartholet



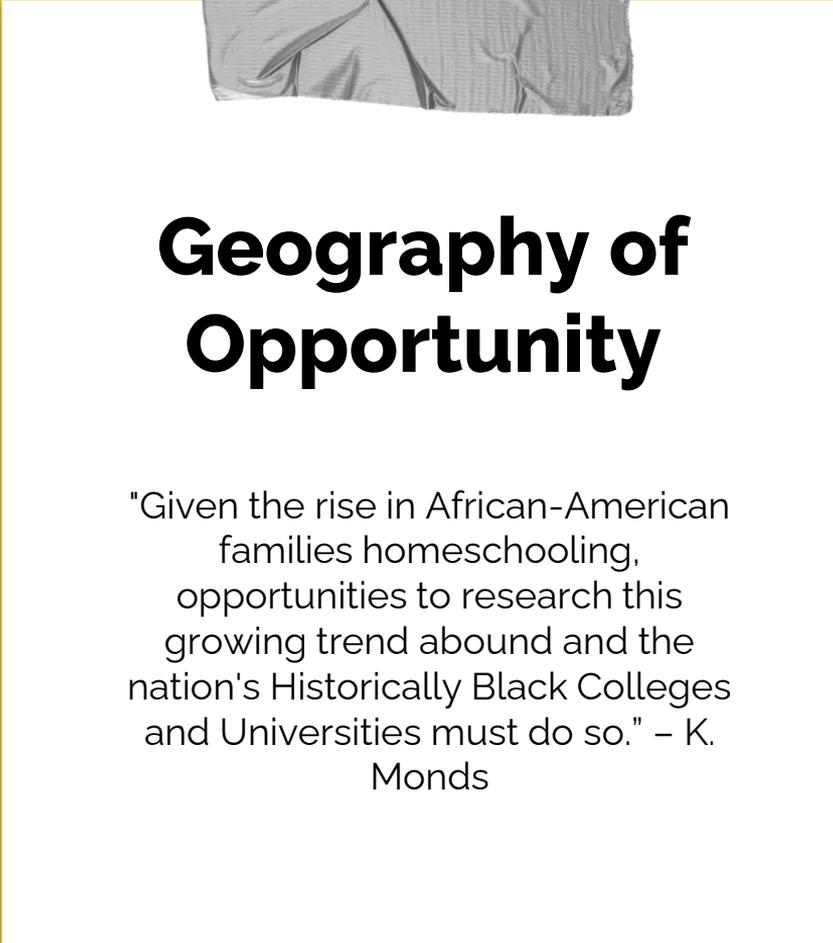
Funding and Tax Credits

- Education-related expenses
 - Supplies
 - Tutors
 - Field trips
- 



Duboisian-Style Participatory Research





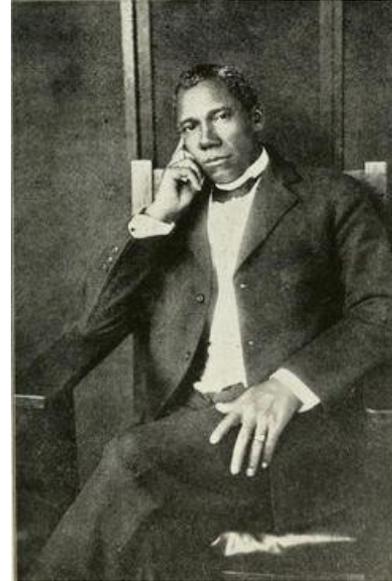
Geography of Opportunity

"Given the rise in African-American families homeschooling, opportunities to research this growing trend abound and the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities must do so." – K. Monds

Joseph Winthrop Holley

“Another thing I impress upon my people both by precept and example is that whether their **educational opportunity** comes from friends of the race or the taxpayers of the State, the end is the same and that is to make good citizens.

I do not know myself what a good citizen is, but I do know that a good citizen possesses certain qualities, and often in my talks to my people I sum up these qualities as follows: first, **intelligence**; second, **industry**; third, **integrity**; fourth, **independence**.” (Source: *You Can't Build a Chimney From the Top*, pp. 49)





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Thank you!

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