Global Migration, Failed Citizenship, and Transformative Civic Education

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Global migration, the quest by diverse groups for equality, and the rise of populist nationalism have complicated the development of citizenship and citizenship education in nations around the world. Many racial, ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious groups are denied structural inclusion into their nation-state. Consequently, they do not fully internalize the values and symbols of the nation-state, develop a strong identity with it, or acquire political efficacy. They focus primarily on particularistic group needs and goals rather than the overarching goals of the nation-state. I conceptualize this process as failed citizenship and present a typology that details failed, recognized, participatory, and transformative citizenship. I will describe the role of the schools, colleges, and universities in reducing failed citizenship and in helping marginalized groups become efficacious and participatory citizens in multicultural nation-states.

James A. Banks holds the Kerry and Linda Killinger Endowed Chair in Diversity Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. He is a past president of the American Educational Research Association and of the National Council for the Social Studies. He is a member of the National Academy of Education and a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association. Professor Banks is a specialist in social studies education and multicultural education and has written widely in these fields. His books include Cultural Diversity and Education: Foundations, Curriculum, and Teaching; and Educating Citizens in a Multicultural Society. His edited books include The Encyclopedia of Diversity in Education and Citizenship Education and Global Migration: Implications for Theory, Research, and Practice. Books by Professor Banks have been translated into Greek, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Turkish. A video archive and interview of Professor Banks appears on “Inside the Academy” at http://insidetheacademy.asu.edu/james-banks.