



## *Critical Questions in Education: Volume 7, Issue 3*

### *Special Theme Issue: Critical Inquiry for the Social Good*

The Academy for Educational Studies

September 15, 2016

Colleagues and Friends of the Academy:

Before moving onto a quick word about this special theme issue, your regular Academy update: plans are complete for our two annual meetings. The first of those, a symposium on school/student/teacher perfection is set for beautiful Salt Lake City Utah in just a few short weeks. For those readers who may have missed out on the Salt Lake City event, never fear. Our second meeting will be in New Orleans, March 6-8 of next year, and will be focused in part on the question of teaching controversial topics. Visit our web site for details.

So: why a theme issue on Critical Inquiry? And, why one focusing on “research” as a means for aiding our never-ending pursuit of a good society? The long answer is somewhat complicated and is pondered in some very substantial ways in this issue; and, in fact, in a second issue to come...yes, you read that correctly. Aaron and Austin were so successful in garnering participation on these questions, that the quality articles submitted for the project could not be contained in a single issue of the journal. Part two is scheduled to be published mid-March of next year. The short answer is not nearly so complicated. Educational research, particularly since being “redefined” in the pages of the No Child Left Behind reform legislation has, seemingly, been much less about a search for ways to make our society better, and much more about turning our children and youth into quantifiable data to be examined and prodded into perfect numeric Nirvana. When Aaron and Austin proposed this project it was certainly one that fell into the category of “no-brainer.” Critically interrogating the state of current research and then providing suggestions for how research might be conducted with the social good in mind is, we believe, absolutely crucial to recovering some lost humanity in educational policy and practice. We hope (and believe) you will find the articles in this part I collection to be thought-provoking and impactful in terms of your own research into education and its relationship to a good society.

And so, we leave you to your reading with as always, our wish that you are visited with a good dose of peace.

PAX,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eric C. Sheffield".

Eric C. Sheffield, Managing Editor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jessica A. Heybach".

Jessica A. Heybach, Associate Editor