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Leave No Child Behind

Preparing Today's Youth for Tomorrow's World

James Comer

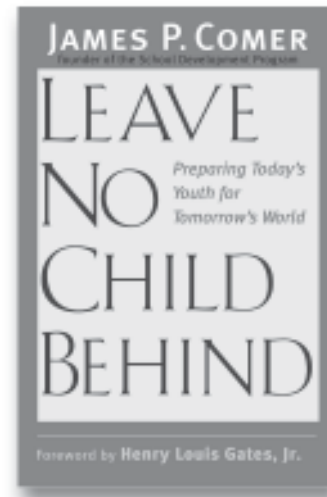
Foreword by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

The call-to-arms to “leave no child behind” in America has become popularly associated with the Bush administration’s education plan—a plan that actually diverges greatly from the ideals of the Children’s Defense Fund, which originated the concept. Here, in a bold and engaging new book, Dr. James Comer reclaims this now-famous exhortation as a tool for positive and substantive change.

Far removed from the federal government’s focus on standardized testing as the panacea for our educational ills, Dr. Comer’s argument—drawn from his own experiences as the creator of the School Development Program—urges teachers, policymakers, and parents alike to work toward creating a new kind of school environment.

In so doing, Dr. Comer reignites a crucial debate as he details the evolution and many successes of his School Development Program since its inception thirty-five years ago, and he illustrates how his model for change has proven effective in public schools throughout the country. Most important, he offers proof that students from all backgrounds can learn at a high level, adopt positive behavioral attitudes, and prepare for a fulfilling adult life, if they learn in schools that provide adequate support for their complete development—schools that know that leaving no child behind should be much more than just a convenient political slogan.

James P. Comer, M.D., is Maurice Falk Professor of Child Psychiatry at the Yale Child Study Center and associate dean at the Yale University School of Medicine.



“A key addition to the current debate over how our wealthy nation can create a school system that truly prepares every child to learn and succeed. Dr. Comer once again shares the lessons he has learned from his long experience discovering what really works to transform schools, students, teachers, parents, and communities. How different our schools and nation would be if every child were a ‘Comer kid.’”—Marian Wright Edelman, President, Children’s Defense Fund

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