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SERIES IN EDUCATION



Dexter Chapin

The American Idea, Resilience,
and Thrivancy Education

Foreword by Dr Barry Clemson

Dexter Chapin

The American Idea, Resilience, and Thrivancy Education

SERIES IN EDUCATION

Chapin presents a thoughtful model for transforming the American education system into a catalyst for developing a healthier, more viable society. After providing an overview of destructive currents from the last seventy years that diminished the expression of the American Idea, Chapin unveils an antidote. A blueprint emerges for reinventing organizations and companies that prioritize the community good beginning at the foundational level of how we educate children. For anyone interested in an insightful presentation on moving the American experiment forward I strongly recommend this book.

Joe Loftin

Global Culture Education Initiative

Summary

This book is about a path forward, creating cultural resilience so rising generations of Americans can thrive. In 1995, William Strauss and Neil Howe predicted that by 2025, America would be in crisis. It has arrived on schedule. Do we have, or can we develop, the cultural resilience to navigate the crisis, protect and maintain the American Idea, and come out the other side in a better place than we are now? Our resilience depends on the number of alternative paradigms we have available to us, fewer paradigms, less resilience. For fifty years, there has been a dominant, white male, cultural paradigm, driving others to the margins, and slowly devolving into an ideology. Ideologies truncate resilience and preclude Thrivancy. How did we get here and how do we get out?

About the author

Dexter Chapin recently retired after more than 50 years in K-12 education at every position between student-teacher and Superintendent in a variety of school types in four countries. He taught the full range of the K-12 Sciences, African and State Histories, and Cultural Anthropology. Formal training includes a Stanford University BA in Anthropology / Biology, an MA focused on international education, and a PhD in the Social Foundations of Administration, with a focus on the cybernetics of social systems, both from The University of Maryland, College Park. Additional training was gained at The University of California, Santa Cruz, North Carolina Central University, and elsewhere. Dexter Chapin was ineligible for the draft and could therefore be away from academia to build bowling alleys, train dolphins, crew research vessels, serve as a seismic refraction field crew, operate heavy equipment building salt marshes, be a motorcycle mechanic / sponsored rider, and hitchhike in Africa. But Truth be told, the life-changing experiences were spending time as Gregory Bateson's project assistant and being trained by Barry Clemson and Dan Huden. He is the author of 'Master Teachers: Making a Difference on the Edge of Chaos' (2008).

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SUBJECTS Sociology, Education, Philosophy

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