

Market Movements

African American Involvement in School Voucher Reform

Thomas C. Pedroni

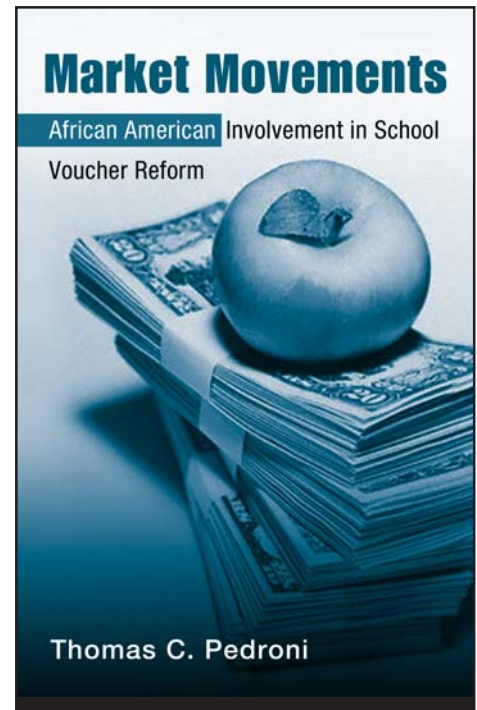
Market Movements documents and analyzes the narratives of community leaders, school officials, and African American working class families who have been attracted to vouchers as a means of removing their children from public schools they deem unacceptable. Pedroni examines the overlaps and tensions between the educational visions of voucher-using African American families and those of powerful conservative educational forces which purport to be allied with them. *Market Movements* provides a hopeful message and a practical vision by developing some of the critical empirical and conceptual groundwork that is necessary in order to renew the increasingly fractious relations among those social actors most likely to defend and expand previous social democratic victories in the United States.

“With compelling narrative, meticulous detail, and sharp analytic insight, Pedroni captures the misunderstood and contested world of African American parents who use vouchers to opt out of failing public schools. Neither duped by the neoconservative agenda nor blind to the limits of private schools, they represent a new iteration of an ongoing agenda of African American parents: to locate caring, community-oriented schools where high expectations will be the norm. This book is essential for all who seek to reform public education.”—*Emilie Vanessa Siddle Walker, Professor of Educational Studies, Emory University*

“In this insightful book, Tom Pedroni analyzes the ideological and political complexities underlying African American parents’ support for vouchers. Pedroni’s ethnographic account and his call for “progressive modernization” in education encourage us to conceptualize a more inclusive and effective movement for democratic education.”—*Pauline Lipman, Professor of Educational Policy Studies, University of Illinois-Chicago*

“Pedroni’s study advances our thinking about African American use of school vouchers by theorizing the relationship between the educational Right and Black parents. This is an accessible and readable work, in which Black working class voices are clearly heard.”—*Geoff Whitty, Director, Institute of Education, University of London*

“Pedroni’s book reinvigorates educational critical theory with a deeply informed and politically astute case study.”—*James Paul Gee, Mary Lou Fulton Presidential Professor of Literacy Studies, Arizona State University*



May 2007

6 x 9; 208 pp

HB: 0-415-95608-0; ISBN-13: 978-0-415-95608-6

US \$125.00

PB: 0-415-95609-9; ISBN-13: 978-0-415-95609-3

US \$29.95

Part of Routledge’s *Critical Social Thought* Series

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Chapter 4: The promised land and the market: Leadership on an unsettling terrain

Chapter 5: Shopping around for justice, and enhancing the value of Black children in the marketplace

Chapter 6: From making do to remaking alliances: A call for progressive modernization in education and beyond

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