

# Learner Series: Opportunity to Access

## Series 7 | Video 3 | Reflection

### Equality Perpetuates the System

Allison Yoshimoto-Towery, former LAUSD Chief Academic Officer and current Executive Director of UC/CSU California Collaborative for Neurodiversity and Learning; Courtney Winkfield, former NYC DOE Deputy Chief Strategy Officer and current Executive Director of Programming and Development for Courageous Conversation®

### Purpose

In this video, Allison Yoshimoto-Towery and Courtney Winkfield discuss the harm in aiming for equality when we should be striving for equity in education and society.

### Background

Equality and equity represent two very different ideas. Equality ensures that everyone is provided with the same things without taking into consideration each person's needs. Equity considers overall needs and individual starting points when making decisions about the allocation of resources and materials. Considering "where people start at" can help mitigate systemic harms that have overburdened some racial groups while privileging others.

### Reflections

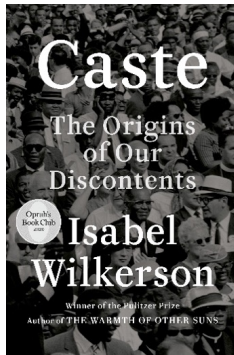
What are some of the conversations taking place in your local community or at your workplace around equality and/or equity?

Why is it harmful to aim for equality given the history of systemic racism in our country?

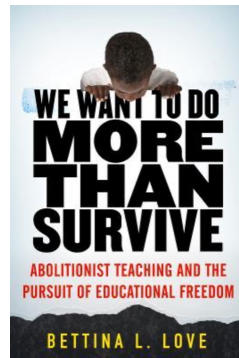
What role do you see students and families playing in conversations about equity and education?

What actions can you take to move the conversation from equality to equity in your sphere of influence?

## Extended Connections



[Caste](#)



[We Want To Do More Than Survive](#)



[Street Data](#)