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About the Authors

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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John Korsmo, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor of [Human Services](#) at the [Woodring College of Education](#) at [Western Washington University](#). John has worked extensively to support youth and family efforts to deal with, and depart from, cycles of poverty and violence, having worked in numerous capacities in low-income neighborhoods in Oregon, Wisconsin, and Washington. His experiences range from primary school P.E. teacher, high school coach, mentor, counselor, and program director to Executive Director of two organizations. Prior to WWU, John was on faculty at the [University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee](#), and also taught courses for [Springfield College](#). John's articles have appeared in such journals as *Qualitative Inquiry*, *Relational Child and Youth Care Practice*, *Journal of Child and Youth Care Work*, and *International Child and Youth Care Network*. John has presented his work in Austria, Canada, and Finland and regularly

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Kay Ann Taylor, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor, Foundations of Education and American Ethnic Studies at [Kansas State University, Manhattan](#). She teaches undergraduate and graduate (history and philosophy) foundations of education courses. She is a Tilford Fellow at K-State. Her research foci encompass intersecting issues central to the broad spectrum of foundations of education addressing social transformation and social justice through a Critical Race Theory lens.

Muhammad Yunus became active in the fight against poverty in 1974 when he lent the equivalent of US\$27 to several women in the town of Jobra, Bangladesh. Two years later, Yunus began the [Grameen Bank Project](#), an institution designed to provide loans to people living in poverty without requiring any collateral. Yunus considers Grameen to be "a message of hope, a programme for putting homelessness and destitution in a museum so that one day our children will visit it and ask how we could have allowed such a terrible thing to go on for so long." Through this work, Yunus and the bank have earned numerous awards, most notably the [Nobel Peace Prize in 2006](#). "We were happy that the world has given recognition through this prize, that poverty is a threat to peace," said Yunus in acknowledging the award. Muhammad Yunus received his Ph.D in Economics from [Vanderbilt University](#), U.S.A. in 1970 and taught economics in both Bangladesh and the United States for nearly 30 years. He currently resides in Dhaka, Bangladesh with his wife Afroji, a professor of physics at [Jahangirnagar University](#). (Sources: <http://www.grameen-info.org/>, <http://www.muhammadyunus.org/>)