**ABSTRACT**

ABSTRACT

**GRADUATION RATES**

The results show that educational professionals of both districts utilize their schools and communities in different ways to support students' ability to graduate. This indicates the importance of collaboration between schools, community organizations, and families in order to improve graduation rates.

---

**SOLITARY IN SUBURBIA: THE SOCIAL NETWORKS OF SUBURBAN VOUCHER HOLDERS IN ATLANTA**

This thesis examines the social networks of suburban voucher holders and how they differ from those of residents who do not receive vouchers. The results show that voucher holders have smaller, more isolated social networks, and this may contribute to their isolation from friends, family, and neighbors.

---

**FORBIDDEN SEX, DANGEROUS GOSSIP, AND EMPowerISO: AN ALTERNATIVE EXPLANATION AND POTENTIAL SOLUTION FOR THE PUZzLING EPIDEMIC OF UNMARRIED TEEN PREGNANCY IN NICARAGUA**

Nicaragua has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Latin America—28% of women between 20 and 24 have given birth within 10 years. This thesis seeks to investigate this phenomenon through interviews with community members, hospital staff, and school administrators. The findings demonstrate the powerful dialectic relationship between perceptions of TV representation and women's experiences in the workplace. This thesis aims to bridge these gaps and provide a better understanding of the factors influencing women's social networks and their resulting experiences in the workplace.

---

**INEQUALITY ASSETS: EXPERIENCES OF HARBARD STUDENTS IN THE RECRUITING PROCESS FOR FINANCE JOBS**

This thesis explores the experiences of Harvard students in the recruiting process for finance jobs, focusing on how they navigate the competitive landscape of the finance industry. The findings suggest that students who are able to build strong networks and develop skills early in their academic careers are more likely to succeed in the recruiting process.

---

**JURORS' PERCEPTIONS OF RACIAL DISPARITIES AND HARMNESS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**

Jurors serve an important role in the criminal justice system, yet little is known about how jurors make sense of racial disparities in the criminal justice system. This thesis seeks to investigate how jurors perceive and make sense of racial disparities in the criminal justice system, and how these perceptions may influence their decision-making. The findings suggest that jurors who perceive racial disparities as just and fair are more likely to make decisions that align with the principles of procedural justice.