



Joanne Larson, PhD is the Michael W. Scandling Professor of Education and chair of the teaching and curriculum program at the University of Rochester's Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development. A former preschool teacher and director, she teaches master's level literacy courses, as well as doctoral level courses on curriculum, teaching and change, and introductory and advanced qualitative research methods. Larson's ethnographic research examines how language and literacy practices mediate social and power relations in literacy events in schools and communities. She is currently collaborating with Rochester community residents on a participatory action research project examining changes associated with transforming a local corner store into a cornerstone of healthy living. She is the editor of *Literacy as Snake Oil: Beyond the Quick Fix, Second Edition* (Lang, 2007) and co-editor of the *Handbook of Early Childhood Literacy* (Sage, 2013). Her book, *Making Literacy Real: Theories and Practices in Learning and Teaching* (Sage, 2005), co-authored with Jackie Marsh, explores the breadth of the complex and important field of literacy studies, orientating literacy as a social practice grounded in social, cultural, historical, and political contexts.

Her new book, *Radical Equality in Education: Starting Over in U.S. Schooling* (Routledge, 2014), chronicles how the United States has reached a crisis point in public education and offers suggestions for a complete reboot of the current K-12 educational system.