Sociology in America is often traced to the urban research program established at the University of Chicago by Robert E. Park. But the work of W.E.B. DuBois came earlier, particularly, *The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study*. This seminal work was followed by *The Ghetto, The Gold Coast and the Slum, The Jackroller, Hotel Life, Black Metropolis, Street Corner Society*, and many other sociological classics associated with the “Chicago School.” The sociologists who produced these works engaged in ethnographic fieldwork and participant-observation to develop sociological and cultural knowledge intended to serve as a basis for social reform. These scholars left a rich sociological legacy that bears fruit to this day.