

# Teaching Social Justice to a Global Audience: Lessons Learned

Educating Millennials and Beyond

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July 26, 2017

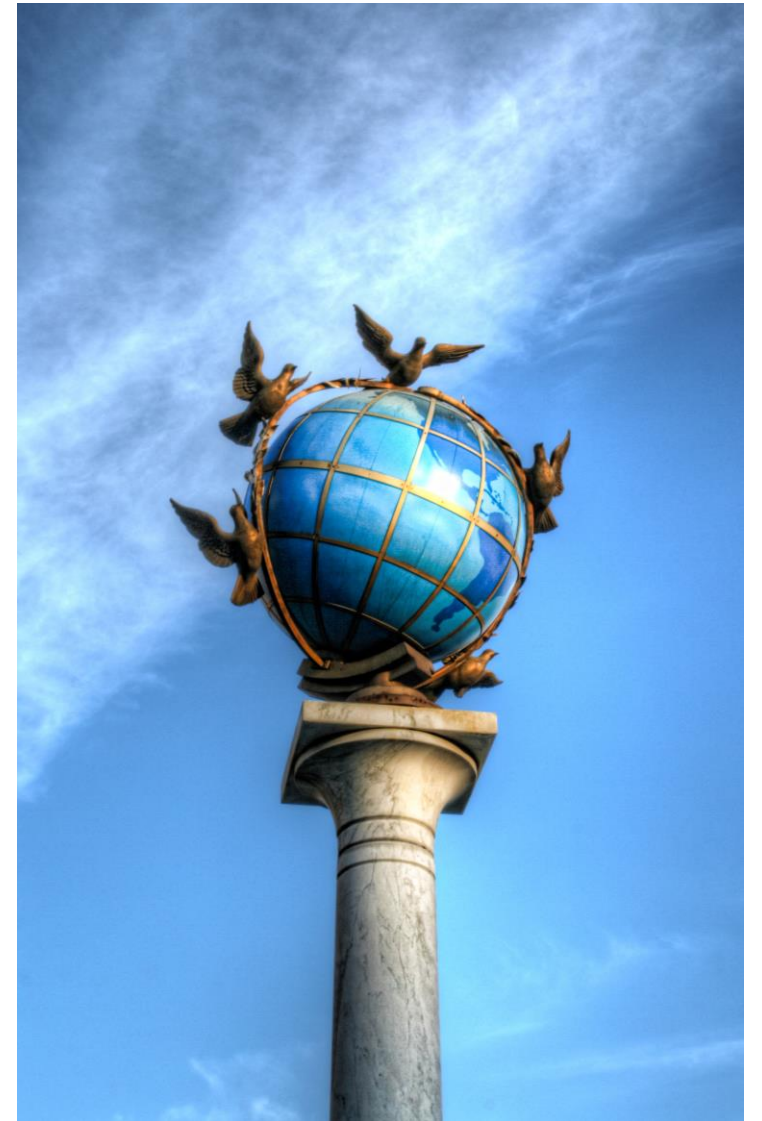


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Commercial  
Law and Social  
Justice

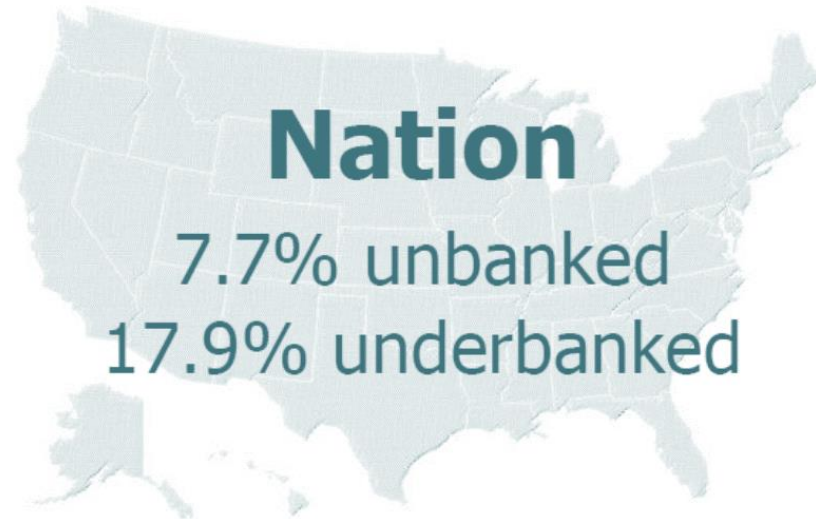
UCC: Negotiable Instruments  
Law:

- A Florida Bar Exam Subject
- Statutory Course
- Complex and confusing for most students

# Unbanked and Underbanked

**Unbanked:** No checking or savings account.

**Underbanked:** Has an account, but continues to rely on alternative financial services, like check-cashing services, payday loans, rent-to-own agreements or pawn shops.



# Unbanked and Underbanked in South Florida

In terms of unbanked and underbanked populations the United States in 2009:

- Miami was the number one for large cities
- Hialeah, Florida was the third for mid-sized cities
- Miami-Dade County was fifth for counties with populations over 100,000

# The Assignment: Alternative Financial Service Providers

Find

An example

Research

The problem

Propose

A solution

## Find

Examples of Alternative  
Financial Service Providers

### **Examples:**

- The Check Cashing Store
- ACE Cash Express
- Amscot The Money Superstore
- Advance America

# Research

(1) the problems with Alternative Financial Service Providers,  
(2) the need for consumer protection; and  
(3) the feasibility of providing banking services to unbanked and underbanked populations.

After researching the problems, students found:

- “The main problem associated with individuals using alternative financial services is that they are paying a hefty price for being poor.”
- “Payday loans also have high cost for the unbanked and underbanked by making it difficult to escape the cycle of debt.”
- “After conducting this research, I have reached the conclusion that the unbanked and underbanked are best served by helping them escape the alternative finance services that exploit them and drastically reduce their take-home pay.”
- “AFS providers are ... unregulated and costly, and therefore can put unbanked and underbanked individuals in a worse financial position.”

# Propose

A Community Organization  
to assist unbanked and  
underbanked populations

## Examples:

- “**Her Debt Matters, LLC** will focus its attention on overall WOMEN Empowerment, with special focus on women who are heads of household and single mothers who reside in low-income neighborhoods.”
- “**The Coalition for Financial Equality (CFE)** is dedicated to helping improve the financial stability of unbanked and underbanked residents of our community by connecting them with safe and affordable mainstream accounts in banks and credit unions, raising public awareness of these efforts and opportunities, and otherwise expanding access to financial education and other financial empowerment opportunities. “
- “**Disability Financial Services:** Providing financial services to families caring for the intellectually and developmentally disabled such as cash checking services, grants, and legal help with government benefits, housing, and education. “



Social issues matter to  
millennials



Researching social  
issues inspire  
millennials



Millennials are  
exceptionally  
thoughtful and  
creative when inspired

Lessons Learned

Thank you!

The End