Kern Council of Teachers of English (KCTE)
One Book, One Bakersfield, One Kern
College Writing Contest
based on $2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America
by Kathryn J. Edin & H. Luke Shaefer

Do you like writing? Do you like winning prizes? Do you like sharing your insights?
Then enter the KCTE/One Book, One Bakersfield, One Kern Writing Contest!

Prizes
1st Place: $300  2nd Place: $200  3rd Place: $100

This Year’s Topic
In their conclusion, Edin and Shaefer assert that “For generations, welfare served to separate the poor from the rest of society. It robbed people of their dignity, their sense of self-worth . . . Now it is not the receipt of cash benefits, but the lack of any cash at all, that serves to separate the $2-a-day poor. Without cash, they can’t meaningfully participate in society. Furthermore, no American should have to resort to the lengths they must go to in order to generate that critical resource” (171).

Additionally, they argue, “It is not enough to provide material relief to those experiencing extreme deprivation. We need to craft solutions that can knit these hard-pressed citizens back into the fabric of their communities and their nation” (158).

Why do Edin and Shaefer think social inclusion/social incorporation is so important? Do you agree? Why or why not? Use evidence from the text to support your position.

Entries must be received by Friday, October 20, 2017.

Complete submission guidelines can be found at:

www.csub.edu/ge/contest