



The Dubuque Economic Ladder to Success

Dubuque, IA - Recent research conducted by Harvard and Stanford economist Raj Chetty finds that a child born to poverty in the Greater Dubuque area is among the most likely in the nation to reach the top 20% of income earners by the age of 26.

This was highlighted in a Forbes.com blog authored by John Wasik (2-5-16). In it Wasik discussed Dr. Chetty's "Equality of Opportunity Project" and research which finds that where you are raised has a great impact on how well you do in economic terms.

John Wasik wrote, *"Successful communities not only have good schools, they have parents who want to make them even better. They have good governance, non-profit activity and care about creating decent-paying jobs (the San Francisco Bay Area is in the forefront in creating a "living" wage). They build libraries, parks and want to green their cities by making them more energy efficient.*

If you want to see social capital at work, go to Dubuque, Iowa. It's nowhere near an ocean or major population center, but it's the San Francisco of the Midwest, not only because of its hilly terrain (yes, in Iowa), but its progress in creating a technology-based jobs culture and livable city. Most people have an average 15-minute commute and the city has won [numerous awards](#) for its civic engagement. It's also much more affordable than Boston, San Jose or Seattle."

To read the Forbes blog, "The Best Cities to Climb the Economic Ladder," click [here](#).

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