The State of the
African American Male
COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS SERIES
The State of the African American Male

Edited by
Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher
and Vernon C. Polite
Heartfelt thanks to my husband James, father Richard House, father-in-law James W. Gallaher Sr., cousin Trevor Eccleston, and Leroy “Poppa” Frost for being loving and dedicated family men.

» E.M.Z.G.

I dedicate this work to the next generation of African American youth in the state of Michigan and nationwide.

» V.C.P.

This text is devoted to the memory and legacy of Dr. Lenoar “Len” Foster—an exemplar in serving, promoting, and advancing the positive engagement and achievement of African American students across the educational pipeline.

A former high school principal and curriculum coordinator, Dr. Foster was active shaping the discourse on leadership in secondary schools and higher education as associate dean at Washington State University. He was a nationally known scholar on the principal leadership school reform and historically black colleges and universities. He authored “The Practice of Educational Leadership in African American Communities of Learning: Context, Scope and Meaning” and “Administrator and Teacher Recruitment and Selection Post-Brown: Issues, Challenges, and Strategies.” He was the editor of ASHE Reader Series in Higher Education and of The Black College Review: Research, Policy and Practice, and chair of the National Task Force on Principal Preparation, National Association of Secondary School Principals (2004–2006).

» E.M.Z.G. and V.C.P.