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Since its inception in 1984, the Center for the Study of Sport in Society has attracted national attention to its pioneering efforts to ensure the education of athletes from junior high school through the professional ranks.

Richard Lapchick was the American leader of the international campaign to boycott South Africa in sports for more than 20 years. In 1993, the center launched TEAMWORK-South Africa, a program to use sports to help improve race relations and help with sports development in post apartheid South Africa.

Sport in Society: Equal Opportunity or Business as Usual? is Lapchick's eighth book. He is writing his ninth book and is a columnist for The Sporting News. Lapchick serves as an adviser to the Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Rainbow Commission on Fairness in Sport and to the players' associations of the NBA, the NFL, and Major League Baseball on the issue of racial hiring practices in sport.

Lapchick earned a bachelor's degree from St. John's University and a doctorate in international race relations from the University of Denver.