

In Defense Of A Liberal Education

The School of Freedom The Demands of Liberal Education Efficiency in Liberal Education Essays on A Liberal Education In Defense of a Liberal Education Learning to Flourish Liberal Education and the Idea of the University Beyond the University A Practical Education Liberal Anxieties and Liberal Education A New Vision of Liberal Education The Liberal Arts College and the Ideal of Liberal Education An Essay Towards a Philosophy of Education Liberal Democracy and Liberal Education What is a Liberal Education ESSAYS ON A LIBERAL EDUCATION An Essay Towards a Philosophy of Education A Narrative-essay on a Liberal Education Liberalism, Communitarianism and Education Efficiency in Liberal Education Anthony O'Hear Meira Levinson Howard Rothmann Bowen F. W. Farrar Fareed Zakaria Daniel R. DeNicola Karim Dharamsi Michael S. Roth Randall Stross Alan Ryan Alistair Miller Henry H. Crimmel Charlotte M. Mason Daniel E. Cullen Franklin Harvey Head FREDERIC WILLIAM. FARRAR Charlotte Maria Mason Stephen Thomas Hawtrey Professor Patrick Keeney Howard Rothmann Bowen

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liberal education is not a theory it is the tradition by which western civilisation has preserved and enriched its inheritance for two and a half thousand years yet liberal education is a term that has fallen from use in britain its traditional meaning now freely confused with its opposite this book is intended to correct that misapprehension through the presentation of original source material from the high points in the liberal education tradition with particular focus on the british experience section 1 origins c 450 bc to c 450 ad section 2 the british tradition c 750 to 1950 section 3 after tradition 1950 onward section 4 liberal education redux america

what should the aims of education be in a liberal society and who should exercise control over education how can children be taught to become good citizens of a pluralistic state the demands of liberal education seeks to answer these questions by drawing upon political theory philosophy of education and empirical research to develop a liberal theory of children s education that is provocative and new the book argues that contrary to the assumptions of many philosophers educators parents and politicians the liberal state is obligated as a matter of justice to help all children develop the capacity for autonomy levinson argues that liberal governments should exercise much greater control over schools than they now do

reprint of the original first published in 1867

new york times bestseller cnn host and best selling author fareed zakaria argues for a renewed commitment to the world s most valuable educational tradition the liberal arts are under attack the governors of florida texas and north carolina have all pledged that they will not spend taxpayer money subsidizing the liberal arts and they seem to have an unlikely ally in president obama while at a general electric plant in early 2014 obama remarked i promise you folks can make a lot more potentially with skilled manufacturing or the trades than they might with an art history degree these messages are hitting home majors like english and history once very popular and highly respected are in steep decline i get it writes fareed zakaria recalling the atmosphere in india where he grew up which was even more obsessed with getting a skills based education however the cnn host and best selling author explains why this widely held view is mistaken and shortsighted zakaria eloquently expounds on the virtues of a liberal arts education how to write clearly how to express yourself convincingly and how to think analytically he turns our leaders vocational argument

on its head american routine manufacturing jobs continue to get automated or outsourced and specific vocational knowledge is often outdated within a few years engineering is a great profession but key value added skills you will also need are creativity lateral thinking design communication storytelling and more than anything the ability to continually learn and enjoy learning precisely the gifts of a liberal education zakaria argues that technology is transforming education opening up access to the best courses and classes in a vast variety of subjects for millions around the world we are at the dawn of the greatest expansion of the idea of a liberal education in human history

learning to flourish offers a lucid penetrating philosophical exploration of liberal learning a still evolving tradition of theory and practice that has dominated and sustained intellectual life and learning in much of the globe for two millennia daniel r denicola weighs the views of both advocates and critics of the liberal arts and interprets liberal education as aimed supremely at understanding and living a good life as a vital tradition generating five competing but complementary paradigms that transcend theories of curriculum and pedagogy and are manifested in particular social contexts he examines the transformative power of liberal education and its relation to such values as freedom autonomy and democracy reflecting on the importance of intrinsic value and moral understanding finally he considers age old obstacles and current threats to liberal education ultimately asserting its value for and urgent need in a global pluralistic technologically advanced society offering a bold yet nuanced theory of liberal education this study will be of great interest to educators as well as those specializing in philosophy of education

the idea of the university and the idea of liberal education share a family resemblance however it is not always explicitly clear what they have in common and what differentiates them this collection brings together arguments and reflections on the nature of the university and the place of liberal learning in the 21st century it is divided into two parts in the first part authors examine the values and ideals that shape our understanding of liberal learning and the university in the second part authors consider pedagogies informing our practices asking after what underlying presuppositions when made explicit guide our liberal education classrooms in higher education unique in its approaches this volume includes defenses of liberal education s intrinsic value the commodification of some of its best ideals

as well as utilitarian defenses that challenge some orthodox conceptions of liberal learning and its justifications each in its own right understands liberal learning as essential to the defense of a democratic order on the pedagogical side included are essays that defend a view of liberal education from the vantage of stem subjects including architecture as well as those we typically associate with the liberal arts this volume will aid academics and students seeking to better grasp an understanding of liberal education but also those seeking to advance their pedagogical ideas about liberal learning researchers and students in education higher education and those interested in the liberal arts and sciences will find this volume a useful addition to their collection

contentious debates over the benefits or drawbacks of a liberal education are as old as america itself from benjamin franklin to the internet pundits critics of higher education have attacked its irrelevance and elitism often calling for more vocational instruction thomas jefferson by contrast believed that nurturing a student s capacity for lifelong learning was useful for science and commerce while also being essential for democracy in this provocative contribution to the disputes university president michael s roth focuses on important moments and seminal thinkers in america s long running argument over vocational vs liberal education conflicting streams of thought flow through american intellectual history w e b dubois s humanistic principles of pedagogy for newly emancipated slaves developed in opposition to booker t washington s educational utilitarianism for example jane addams s emphasis on the cultivation of empathy and john dewey s calls for education as civic engagement were rejected as impractical by those who aimed to train students for particular economic tasks roth explores these arguments and more considers the state of higher education today and concludes with a stirring plea for the kind of education that has since the founding of the nation cultivated individual freedom promulgated civic virtue and instilled hope for the future

the liberal arts major is often lampooned lacking in skills unqualified for a professional career underemployed but studying for the joy of learning turns out to be surprisingly practical unlike career focused education liberal education prepares graduates for anything and everything and nervous fuzzy major students their even more nervous parents college career center professionals and prospective employers would do well to embrace liberal

arts majors just look to silicon valley of all places to see that liberal arts majors can succeed not in spite of but because of their education a practical education investigates the real world experiences of graduates with humanities majors the majors that would seem the least employable in silicon valley s engineering centric workplaces drawing on the experiences of stanford university graduates and using the students own accounts of their education job searches and first work experiences randall stross provides heartening demonstrations of how multi capable liberal arts graduates are when given a first opportunity these majors thrive in work roles that no one would have predicted stross also weaves the students stories with the history of stanford the rise of professional schools the longstanding contention between engineering and the liberal arts the birth of occupational testing and the popularity of computer science education to trace the evolution in thinking about how to prepare students for professional futures his unique blend of present and past produces a provocative exploration of how best to utilize the undergraduate years at a time when institutions of higher learning are increasingly called on to justify the tangible merits of the liberal arts a practical education reminds readers that the most useful training for an unknowable future is the universal time tested preparation of a liberal education

explores the ways in which the educational system can combat such problems as a degenerating democratic system lack of creative thinking and moral and spiritual decline

this is an extremely important book wonderfully well researched and written it develops a powerful argument about how we should conceive of the aims of education and design curricula it should define the field for a very considerable period of time professor michael j reiss institute of education university of london uk many philosophers of education believe that the main aim of education is to endow students with personal autonomy producing citizens who are reflective make rational choices and submit their values and beliefs to critical scrutiny this book argues that the good life need not be the life of the philosopher politician or critical thinker but that an ordinary unexamined life is also worth living central to this ethical life is the engagement in worthwhile activities or practices and the best way to prepare pupils for their engagement in these practices is to cultivate a range of moral and intellectual virtues in this book alistair miller brings together a range of philosophical and historical perspectives to argue for a new vision of liberal education liberal in the sense that

it forms a moral and cultural inheritance new in the sense that it would enable all pupils to lead flourishing lives divided into two sections the first part of the book seeks to establish the justified aims of education in a liberal democratic society the second part explores the nature of the school curriculum that might realise these aims a new vision of liberal education will appeal to researchers academics and postgraduate students in the fields of philosophy of education moral and values education liberal education and curriculum studies

the american liberal arts college now appears to be in a crisis that threatens its very existence critics have charged that the college no longer delivers on its promise of a liberal education and is in a state of moral collapse this book analyzes this crisis and offers a radical proposal for its resolution crimmel first explains how a college s infidelity to the ideals of liberal education adversely affects its relationship to society its educational program and its teachers he then provides a definition and a defense of liberal education s ideal finally he demonstrates that the college must not submit to any ideology political agenda or vocational interest and that the college s educational program must be centered around a set of rational theoretical and practical skills and that the college teacher must be autonomous and uncompromised by scholarly or administrative responsibilities

this was the last and most important and comprehensive work of charlotte mason founder of the parents national educational union for more than half a century the practical results of her original thought on education could be seen in all parts of the world in the charlotte mason method and the parents union schools

the essays in this book reflect on the paradoxical relationship of liberal education and liberal democracy liberal education emphasizes knowledge for its own sake detached from all instrumental purposes it also aims at liberation from the manifold sources of unfreedom including political sources in this sense liberal education is negative questioning any and all constraints on the activity of mind liberal democracy devoted to securing individual natural rights purports to be the regime of liberty par excellence since both liberal education and liberal democracy aim to set individuals free they would seem to be harmonious and mutually reinforcing but there are reasons to doubt that liberal education can be the civic education liberal democracy needs if liberal education is in tension with all instrumental

purposes how does it stand toward the goal of preparing the kind of citizens liberal democracy needs the book's contributors are critical of the way higher education typically interprets its responsibility for educating citizens and they link those failures to academia's neglect of certain founding principles of the American political tradition and of the traditional liberal arts ideal

communitarian thinkers have identified important deficiencies in liberal thought in particular the limits of the account of justice given in liberal theories this book makes transparent for the reader the implications that the liberal account of justice has for our ways of thinking about education citing the work of John Rawls as the principal expression of contemporary liberal thought Keeney argues that there are certain intractable tensions between the view of the individual given in rights based theories of justice and a certain valuable conception of education which in the west has traditionally been termed a liberal or general education and concludes that ideals of a liberal education are only available to a political ethic which is capable of articulating a public conception of virtue and the good

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