

Corporate Schooling: The Assault on Public Education Positions

In recent years, there has been a growing trend towards the privatization of public education. This has taken many forms, including the rise of charter schools, the expansion of private school vouchers, and the increasing involvement of corporations in the management of public schools.



The Edison Schools: Corporate Schooling and the Assault on Public Education (Positions: Education, Politics, and Culture) by Kenneth J. Saltman

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Proponents of corporate schooling argue that it will improve educational outcomes by introducing competition and choice into the system. They claim that private schools are more efficient and effective than public schools, and that they provide parents with more options for their children's education.

However, critics of corporate schooling argue that it will ultimately lead to the erosion of public education. They point out that private schools are

often more expensive than public schools, and that they are not subject to the same accountability standards. They also worry that the increasing involvement of corporations in public education will lead to a narrowing of the curriculum and a decrease in teacher autonomy.

The debate over corporate schooling is a complex one, with no easy answers. However, it is important to understand the potential consequences of this trend before making any decisions about the future of public education.

The Erosion of Public Funding

One of the most significant consequences of corporate schooling is the erosion of public funding for education. This is because private schools are not eligible for the same level of funding as public schools. As a result, public schools are forced to compete with private schools for students, which can lead to a decrease in funding for both types of schools.

The erosion of public funding for education has a number of negative consequences. First, it can lead to a decrease in the quality of education provided by public schools. This is because public schools are less able to afford to hire qualified teachers, purchase new equipment, and maintain their facilities.

Second, the erosion of public funding for education can lead to an increase in inequality. This is because private schools are more likely to be located in affluent areas, which means that students from poor families are less likely to have access to a quality education.

The Narrowing of the Curriculum

Another consequence of corporate schooling is the narrowing of the curriculum. This is because private schools are more likely to focus on the subjects that are tested on standardized tests. As a result, students in private schools are less likely to be exposed to a well-rounded education.

The narrowing of the curriculum has a number of negative consequences. First, it can limit students' opportunities to develop their creativity and critical thinking skills. Second, it can make it more difficult for students to succeed in college and the workforce.

The Undermining of Teacher Autonomy

A third consequence of corporate schooling is the undermining of teacher autonomy. This is because private schools are more likely to be managed by corporations, which means that teachers have less control over their classrooms.

The undermining of teacher autonomy has a number of negative consequences. First, it can make it more difficult for teachers to create a positive learning environment for their students. Second, it can lead to a decrease in teacher morale and motivation.

The trend towards corporate schooling is a serious threat to public education. It has the potential to erode public funding, narrow the curriculum, and undermine teacher autonomy. As a result, it is important to understand the potential consequences of this trend before making any decisions about the future of public education.

There are a number of things that can be done to address the threat of corporate schooling. One is to increase public funding for education.

Another is to strengthen accountability standards for private schools. Finally, it is important to support teachers and their unions.

By taking these steps, we can help to ensure that public education remains a strong and vibrant part of our society for generations to come.



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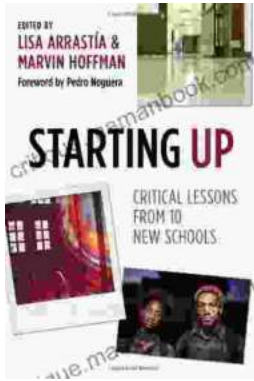
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