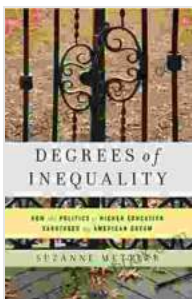


How the Politics of Higher Education Sabotaged the American Dream

The American Dream is a powerful idea. It is the belief that anyone, regardless of their background, can achieve success in life through hard work and determination. For generations, this dream has inspired millions of people to come to America in search of a better life. However, in recent years, the American Dream has become increasingly difficult to achieve for many people. One of the biggest factors contributing to this is the rising cost of higher education.

The cost of college has been rising steadily for decades. In the past 30 years, the average cost of tuition and fees at a four-year public college has increased by more than 250%. This has made it increasingly difficult for students to afford a college education, even with the help of financial aid. As a result, many students are graduating with large amounts of debt, which can take years or even decades to pay off.



Degrees of Inequality: How the Politics of Higher Education Sabotaged the American Dream by Suzanne Mettler

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1865 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 274 pages
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



The rising cost of higher education is not just a financial problem. It is also a social problem. When college becomes too expensive for many people to afford, it creates a barrier to opportunity. Students from low-income families are less likely to be able to attend college, and even if they do, they are more likely to graduate with debt. This can lead to a cycle of poverty, where students from disadvantaged backgrounds are less likely to achieve success in life.

The rising cost of higher education is also a political problem. The government has a responsibility to ensure that everyone has access to affordable higher education. However, in recent years, the government has done little to address the rising cost of college. In fact, some policies have made the problem worse. For example, the government has cut funding for public colleges and universities, which has led to tuition increases. The government has also made it more difficult for students to get financial aid.

The rising cost of higher education is a serious problem that is undermining the American Dream. The government needs to take action to make college more affordable for everyone. This includes increasing funding for public colleges and universities, making it easier for students to get financial aid, and cracking down on predatory lending practices.

The Impact of the Rising Cost of Higher Education on the American Dream

The rising cost of higher education has a number of negative consequences for the American Dream. First, it makes it more difficult for

students to achieve economic success. Students who graduate with large amounts of debt are less likely to be able to buy a home, start a family, or save for retirement. This can lead to a lifetime of financial insecurity.

Second, the rising cost of higher education creates a barrier to opportunity. Students from low-income families are less likely to be able to afford a college education, and even if they do, they are more likely to graduate with debt. This can lead to a cycle of poverty, where students from disadvantaged backgrounds are less likely to achieve success in life.

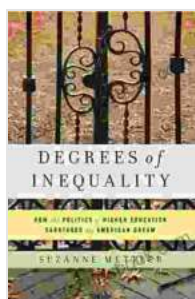
Third, the rising cost of higher education undermines the social fabric of our nation. When college becomes too expensive for many people to afford, it creates a divide between the rich and the poor. This can lead to social unrest and political instability.

What the Government Can Do to Make College More Affordable

The government has a responsibility to ensure that everyone has access to affordable higher education. There are a number of things the government can do to make college more affordable, including:

- Increase funding for public colleges and universities. This will help to keep tuition costs down.
- Make it easier for students to get financial aid. This includes increasing the amount of Pell Grants and other need-based aid programs.
- Crack down on predatory lending practices. This will help to protect students from being taken advantage of by unscrupulous lenders.

The rising cost of higher education is a serious problem that is undermining the American Dream. The government needs to take action to make college more affordable for everyone. This includes increasing funding for public colleges and universities, making it easier for students to get financial aid, and cracking down on predatory lending practices. By taking these steps, we can help to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to achieve their dreams.



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