

Ten Benefits of School Liberation

- 1. Families will be affirmed, not undermined.** Parents will choose schools where teachers support their values, whether Baptist or Buddhist, Catholic or Calvinist, Montessori or Progressive, etc. They will choose schools from competitive offerings just as they choose a church, restaurant, or magazine.
- 2. Children will be safer.** Independent schools won't tolerate violence because parents can easily move their children to another school. Schools that are unsafe will either end the danger or go out of business.
- 3. The poor will have access to better education.** Americans donate over \$175 billion per year to charity. To make sure that the low income third have access to independent schools, private scholarships must expand to \$20-25 billion per year. Given the \$350 billion tax cut resulting from School Liberation, this is prudently predictable. Thus empowered, the poor will be able for the first time to hold educators accountable, impossible for them under today's system.
- 4. Individualization.** Children will no longer be forced to "follow the herd." Many schools and teachers will specialize in learning styles: A hands-on school for action-based learners, a literature-based unit study school for voracious readers, and learning-embedded-in-music for auditory learners.
- 5. Children's desire to learn will be renewed.** Government schools cut the heart out of educational wonder by preventing discussion of the great questions of our species (e.g., "What is the purpose of life?" "Where did I come from?" "Is there a hereafter?"). Schools suffocate independent thought by imposing politically correct dogmas. Independent schools will "re-open the American mind" by allowing discussion of the rational questions that naturally occur to students.
- 6. Schools will be smaller and cost less.** Schools will be scaled to fit children, not politics. Elementary schools will often be 100-200 children, not the 500-2000 we see today. Within the first year of School Liberation, the number of schools in the U.S. will likely increase from today's 125,000 to 500,000 or more. Competition will trim bureaucracies and promote innovation, reducing costs by at least half. Blending coop-, home- and self-schooling will provide much better education in urban centers than today's government schools—and for perhaps as low as \$30 per week per child.
- 7. Teachers will be happier.** Educators who share a worldview and education philosophy will start schools, often renting space in former government school buildings. With like-minded parents as the customers rather than politicians, teachers will no longer suffer trendy educational fads from the latest "Education Governor."
- 8. Less time.** In the past, eighth-grade graduates mastered subject material beyond that covered by most of today's high schools. With schools relieved of extreme discipline problems and using teaching methods geared to learning styles, students will be able to learn more in fewer hours and fewer years. Many students will accomplish 1-2 years of college while in high school, saving college expense.
- 9. Quality assurance from private credentialing and accreditation.** Private credentialing services will prevail like those for Montessori and Waldorf teachers today. Private school accreditation services, such as A.C.S.I and A.A.C.S., will expand to help assure parents that schools are meeting their stated objectives.
- 10. The economy will benefit.** Businesses will become more efficient when graduates are better educated. Students with specific career goals can match with like-minded businesses for apprenticeships and work-study programs.