

Vouchers Without Choice

As each generation has become more government dependent in their thinking they have not realized that they are being subtly and consistently conditioned to petition government *for rights they already have*.

The False Premises on which Voucher Support is Built:

1. You can take government money without government control.
2. Children are entitled to their fair share of public monies used for education in their school district. (Entitlements)
3. Once money is in the coffers of the ISD it is still the taxpayer's money.
4. The children belong to themselves and/or to their parents.
5. It is an accepted fact that education is a function of civil government and everyone should pay for the education of everyone else's children.
6. Parents don't have a choice now. (Yes, they do. They just don't want to pay for it themselves.)
7. Vouchers promote free enterprise competition between government and private schools, thus improving education for all children.

If an idea is wrong in premise, it is wrong in result. Truth may or may not bring immediate pain, but always brings long-term peace. A lie brings the illusion of immediate relief, but always brings long-term suffering.

Consider and Ponder:

1. For there to be peace in a nation or family then all the children must be taught by the LORD and about the LORD. (Deuteronomy 6 and Isaiah 54)
2. Freedom of thought is more important for liberty than convenience. To have freedom of thought you must have parental control of education.
3. To have a strong nation you cannot have a dependency or entitlement mindset.
4. A person values what they have to pay for. Until the method of funding education is changed there will be no substantive change in the result of education.
5. Vouchers take away educational freedom under the guise of providing it.
6. You get more of what you subsidize and less of what you penalize.
7. The goal and content of private and government education is different. Private is to prepare children to be self-governing for their own safety and happiness whereas the State school is to prepare children to conform for the so-called good of the collective. These opposing goals cannot be paid for by the same source.
8. Education is inherently religious. The idea that the government can provide a secular education that is neutral is a logical impossibility.
9. Control follows money. He who pays controls. Government money comes with government strings attached. The government cannot throw money in the streets. Regulations are inherent to all voucher schemes.

As soon as a private school takes government money it becomes a government school. He who pays controls. This includes both control of the process and an interest in the outcome. Because the government issues the voucher, they have paid, thus, they have rights that can circumvent and overrule those of the parent. This is the core of much of the conflict over what is taught in public schools today. Ignoring this point does not make it any less important or less encroaching.

Freedom of thought requires freedom of finance. Freedom of finance leads to freedom of thought. If you want to be free—instead of demanding freedom while lobbying to get someone else to pay your way—you should be spending your time figuring out how to pay your own way. “Affordability” is a matter of priorities, not a matter of capacity.

“I don't care—race, gender, ethnicity—free stuff is very seductive... The more seductively politicians promise people things it is tough to resist. Even hard working people eventually will stop and say, ‘Why am I being fiscally responsible when my neighbor isn't?’ I think it is going to be a very big challenge to fight back dependency. Remember the last election it was not the unemployment rate that mattered, it was the dependency rate.” -Andrea Tanteros on *The Five*, 2/26/13

“Vouchers are based on the philosophy of entitlement—a belief that the government ‘owes’ every child the best possible education that is equal in quality to that which is provided for every other child. When quality is inadequate, attention is drawn away from the real issue, and the topic becomes the amount of funds spent per child.” -Jackie Newbrough, 2004

You have to ask the right questions to get the right answers. Principles solve problems. You have to understand liberty to have a vision for liberty. Without a vision the people perish. If the best vision you have is that of government dependency then that is the best you will get.

Welfare disincentivizes students to learn since their future support is not dependent upon their own knowledge or skills, but upon the government.

Vouchers are based on the redistribution of wealth. Vouchers are rooted in socialism.

“Public schools are based on four false premises: 1. Welfare works, 2. Socialism works, 3. Parents have insufficient wisdom, and 4. We can teach character without mentioning God. We need to replace those false premises with truisms, and the truisms I suggest are: 1. Responsibility works, 2. Freedom works, 3. Parents have more wisdom than politicians, and 4. To teach character, we must integrate three factors: the reason for morality, examples of morality, and instruction in morality.” -Marshall Fritz, *The Plano Star Courier*

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