

Public School Kids Deliberately 'Dumbed Down' to be Automaton in Global Collective

Originally published in American Free Press • September 23, 2002 (p. 10-11)

American public school children have been deliberately "dumbed down" and indoctrinated—rather than educated—to accept the global plantation and the dissolution of American sovereignty and liberty. That's the shocking thesis put forth in a carefully-documented 750-page volume entitled The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America, by Charlotte Iserbyt.

A former school board member who sent her children to public schools, Mrs. Iserbyt was a longtime supporter of Ronald Reagan and was appointed to the U.S. Department of Education by Reagan, only to be fired in 1982 after she objected to—and later leaked documents exposing—top-level agreements between the administration and the Soviet Union for the purpose of redirecting the course of American Education.

Mrs. Iserbyt was the guest on the Aug. 25 broadcast of Radio Free America, the weekly call-in talk forum sponsored by American Free Press with host Tom Valentine. An edited transcription of the interview follows. Valentine's questions are in boldface. Mrs. Iserbyt's responses are in regular text.

In your book, you charge—and document—that the decline in American education is what you call a deliberate dumbing down of America's public school children.

The result has been the changing of our whole society and our whole culture. You can't deny a human being an education and some moral values without having the disastrous results which we now see all around us.

In 1965, when the federal government became actively involved financially in education and they poured millions into it, ostensibly to help the poor, they changed schooling from an academic education, giving children the ability to understand the world around them and other cultures, languages, history, etc., to what is known as "outcome-based education." People think that only happened in the 1990s. The philosophy changed in 1965. This was the internationalization of education.

Education no longer mattered. They were looking at using our children as little tools—basically robots in the global, planned economy. And we see the global economy coming in now.

We're seeing children who are only in eighth grade being told to make up their minds about what they are going to do with the rest of their lives. This is a socialist, collectivist quota system, a planned economy with a certain number of persons assigned to different slots: we saw it in the old Soviet Union, with a certain number of welders. We never dreamed that we would have this failed system here. But we do.

Our dumbed down Congress passed it during the 1980s and 1990s. But they obviously don't know what kind of system we have, since they are a product of a public school system that never taught them that we are a republic, not a democracy; that we are supposed to have a free enterprise system, not a planned economy. So the re-

sults are very, very clear.

If you can't see it with the results, then look at the money. How could you spend billions of dollars every year and see test scores continue to decline? Yet, every time test scores go down, people seem to be more enthusiastic about pouring more money in. They seem to forget that prior to 1960 the United States had the finest education system in the world.

In 1895 they had a test for eighth graders in which they asked them to answer questions that I don't think I could answer.

I have that test in front of me. Questions include: give nine rules for the use of capital letters; name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications; define verse, stanza and paragraph; what are the principle parts of a verb? Define case and illustrate each case. Why is the Atlantic coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude? They didn't give you multiple choice, you had to write out the answers.

Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said recently that the European Union is the new Soviet Union. George Bush is giving us another Soviet Union here in this hemisphere with the United States, Canada and Latin America. You would never have been able to get the American people 40 or 50 years ago to accept this.

Our children will be nothing but drones in the global economy, working for the global elite. It's the same old totalitarianism. People wouldn't accept it as they do, if they hadn't deliberately changed the country through the schools over a long period of time.

A close associate of Soviet agent Alger Hiss, in a speech to the World Health Organization, suggested "getting rid of the conscience." He recommended that teachers be retrained to be psychiatrists to train students that there's no right and

no wrong. We saw those types of teaching programs from the 1960s through the 1990s.

In 1965 along came Professor Benjamin Bloom with his redefinition of education. Bloom's definition of education was accepted. He said, "The purpose of education is to change the thoughts, actions and feelings of students." Not academics. He defined good teaching as "challenging the students' fixed beliefs."

In my study of all this, I've focused on the Leipzig connection. In the late 1800s many of our American educators went to Germany. You've heard of "The Order" (or "Skull and Bones," as it is often called) at Yale. Many of those people were retrained in Germany to consider the child as an animal, basically, not as a human being. The child was to be manipulated through stimulus response, etc.

B.F. Skinner and John Dewey picked up on this. They all worked out of the University of Chicago and Columbia University. They changed the label to "outcome-based education" after the so-called "Mastery Learning" had been such a disaster and so many inner city children had dropped out in Chicago.

Yet, President Bush is putting in the same old "Mastery Learning" under the label "Direct Instruction." Regardless of what you call it, it is not learning. It is training.

Skinner himself said: "I could make a pigeon a high achiever," by reinforcing it on a proper schedule. So when you hear them say "all children will learn," they are saying, "All children will jump through the hoop." Yes, all children will learn if you reinforce them with a reward. It's like your dog. But our children aren't dogs.

Instead of thinking it's wonderful that the president and the secretary are saying "All children will learn. No child will be left behind," you must ask yourself what that means. It has nothing to do with education. It has to do with reaching the lowest common denominator and getting rid of any academics because corporations—certainly the multinationals—don't want intelligent workers.

The Carnegie Corporation's David Hornback, who has restructured education in many of the states, essentially said in his book, *Human Capital*, that "We don't want educated workers. They give us a hard time. They quit their jobs. They ask too many questions."

So all of this just didn't happen. The goal has long been world government, but the year 1934 was a very important year. That's when the New York-based Carnegie Corporation published the results of a study commissioned with the American Historical Association. The book was entitled *Conclusions and Recommendations for the Social Studies*.

Did the work of the Cultural Marxists of the Frankfurt School influence this?

The Frankfurt School philosophy was a complete attack on the social fiber of society. But the Carnegie group was more concerned with chang-

ing our free market system to a socialist, collectivist, planned economy. They wanted to change social studies to reflect what was good in socialism versus our past history.

The high-level financial manipulators in American history were actually favorably inclined toward socialism, despite what many people think otherwise.

Absolutely. They didn't miss a beat. In the early part of the 20th century, the plans were made to change America, first by creating wars, and then making plans to keep America from sliding back to the way it was before. The Rockefellers and the other financial interests were part of all of this and they focused on the system of education. The Carnegie element focused on the international aspects. The Rockefeller element focused on the national aspects.

In the 1930s, at the same time the Carnegie group was calling for a planned economy and education geared toward that—they called it a “new order”—they were promoting the pilot plan for outcome-based education or OBE.

OBE does away with the four years of math and science and individualizes education for children which is necessary for training for the workforce. That was piloted in the 1930s. Then came World War II, which was planned, and after that we had the United Nations (which had actually been created three years earlier).

In 1965 the Carnegie Corporation was deeply involved in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In 1969, Carnegie paid for and developed the National Assessment, which is the test that President Bush has now mandated for the first time that all children will take. This test is 60 percent attitudinal. It measures your children as to whether or not they are politically correct in their outlook. Every child will have to take this test. Every home school or private school that takes a penny of federal money will have to take this test. In 1985 came what, for many people, was the biggest shocker of all: the Carnegie corporation and President Ronald Regan signed agreements with the Soviet Union which virtually merged the two educational systems of the two nations.

However, the first agreement was signed with Dwight Eisenhower in 1958. This actually carried out what Norman Dodd was told during the congressional investigations in 1953 of the tax-exempt foundations.

Dodd was told by Rowan Gaither, president of the Ford Foundation, that the reason they spent their money the way they did, to develop socialism in this country, was because they got these orders from the White House to change America so that it could be “comfortably merged” with the Soviet Union.

People should do a little checking on the record of so many people whom we thought were good Americans. Eisenhower was president at the time when these orders were issued to the foundations.

Eisenhower's administration set up these little cells in our communities to implement socialism in the United States. He was the first president to sign extensive agreements in space, art, music, education, etc., with the Soviets.

“It has nothing to do with education. It has to do with reaching the lowest common denominator and getting rid of any academics because corporations don't want intelligent workers.”

However, the agreement that Regan and Carnegie Corp. signed with the Soviets in 1985 was the most extensive ever. Carnegie got involved with the Soviets in preparing computer-assisted instruction for early elementary education in the area of “critical thinking.”

I worked in the Department of Education, so a lot of what I am talking about I learned while working there.

I was fired in 1982 for leaking a very important document related to technology in computer-assisted instruction in all of the schools of the country. I thought I should let the press have it and I did. I knew I was going to get fired so I got a lot of confidential documents which proved exactly what was coming down the line. A lot of these documents appear in my book. It represents a complete internationalization of our education system.

So here we had Ronald Regan shaking the saber at the “Evil Empire” when he was really dealing with them on a critical matter affecting the future of American education.

Before I went into the Reagan administration, I wouldn't listen to those Regan critics in the United Republicans of California. I thought they were just bad-mouthing this wonderful guy. I went into the department of Education and learned the hard way. After I was fired, I wrote him a letter (and I know he got it) but I never got a response.

It was after that I finally read *Here's the Rest of Him*, by Kent H. Steffgen, the book that was critical of Regan when he was governor of California. I want people to understand that we all make these mistakes. We all want to believe the best about people. I am certainly one that went that route and I was burned. That's why I had to leak that important document.

People listening have to understand that there isn't any difference between the “Controlled Left” and the “Controlled Right.” They have an identical agenda and as long as Americans continue to go to those dumb Republican caucuses and vote for the Controlled Republicans we will never be able to cure the problems in this country.

Tragedy and Hope, the book by Bill Clinton's Georgetown University mentor, professor Carroll

Quigley, relates how these elite families decided early on that they had to control both major parties. Thus, the controlled “sheep” going to the polls would not know that there was really any difference.

Former Education Secretary William Bennett is widely promoted as a top conservative thinker in reforming American education. But you contend that he is trying to destroy the legitimate home school movement in America. Could you comment on him?

In the 1980s Bennett approved a character education program, which I considered a destructive values-clarification type of program which has resulted in incidents like the shooting at Columbine school in Colorado.

He's not what people think he is. He's going into states with his kindergarten to grade 12 computer-assisted instruction in all the disciplines. His first state was Ohio where he set up a federally-funded charter school. He's marketing it for home schoolers, especially.

Bennett has big meetings explaining how wonderful it is. If any home schools go for it, they will effectively become public schools. He admits to people that if their children participate in this program: “You will no longer be a home schooler. You will be enrolling in a public chartered school.” If a student schooled at home uses that curriculum, he or she is then really a public school student and subject to government control.

You're also quite critical of the Bush administration.

Bill Clinton as president was bad enough, but I can really take off with George W. Bush.

Take his faith-based initiative. It does nothing more than provide federal money to the churches to control the churches. Vouchers for education, to get control of education. Community service? Volunteerism? Look at the community Oriented Policing System: police are assuming the role of social workers.

And Americans are so dumbed down that they don't see anything wrong with that. All of this is to condition our children to the presence of police in their lives, because the future is going to be nothing other than that.

*Charlotte Iserbyt's book, **The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America**, a massive 750-page volume in large format, is available at \$45.95 (including shipping and handling) from 3D Research Co., 1062 Washington St., Bath, Maine 04530.*

To order using visa or Mastercard call (207) 442-0543 or via fax at (207) 442-0551.

The website for the book is

www.deliberatedumbingdown.com

The e-mail address for the author is:

dumbdown@deliberatedumbingdown.com