

The Passy Press

Letter to the Editor

From: eve.e.grinstead@undisclosed.com
To: Nick Gardiner enpg@thepassypress.com
Date: September 10, 2014 2:45pm EST
Subject: Comments on John MacMurray's Essay on US Education

Dear Sir,

It is nice to hear from you and I am glad that this education essay is finally taking form. I have attached my comments to the article. I think it is quite good. He concisely pinpoints the problems of the US education "system" and why they continue to affect us. I do not think that he completely clearly proposes "how to get to" a better solution, as his title proposes, but then again, that is quite an ambitious idea.

He does, however, completely ignore the question of private education, however, which I think highlights one of the main reasons our "system" is failing: those in power send their children to elite schools, and then propose abstract policies for public institution but never really see how their ideas pan out. It is not a personal attack him, but I see even in his essay that he went to two private schools for higher education, do you know if it was the same for his primary and secondary schooling? Again, it is not to single him out, but I find that a lot of people try to propose solutions to the problems of US education, but don't realize how they actually play a role in perpetuating them. If you look at the most successful countries for the PISA test, I would wager that a good number of their leaders' children go to public school. Anyway, I am perhaps getting ahead of myself. All in all I thought it was a good essay.

Kindly,

Eve E. Grinstead

Eve Grinstead has a BA from Smith College and a Masters Degree from the École Normale Supérieure (ENS), rue d'Ulm. Since finishing her studies, she has remained in Paris, where she works as the Head of Student Life and Cultural Programming at IES abroad, one of the worlds oldest study abroad organizations