

*The Tyranny of Work**Marsha Goldenberg*

Work! Work! Work!  
 Memorize  
 Study! Study! Study!  
 That is all I hear them say  
 Teachers and parents, every day.  
 Why can't I go out to play?

Our system of education emphasizes that a "work!" atmosphere allows students to plow through 239 pages of Geography and Mathematics and History Text Books. The pupils then learn to "memorize!" this vast amount of data, which they do not fully understand, in order to recite the correct answers back to their teachers. "Study!" is necessary for the inevitable examinations and report cards which dictate whether a pupil remains for a second time or is allowed to pass into the next grade.

Along this road of "Work! memorize! and study!" the youngsters pass from elementary to high school and then to college. Many university freshmen are known to have been pressured by teachers to enter this higher form of education because it was the right thing to do. Fourth year is reached and graduation. What happens now to that molded individual who turns out an imperfect, dull product with a lack of ambition? Panic!!

Whom can we blame for such a poor specimen of the educational system?

Is it the fault of the teacher who seems more concerned with finishing x amount of pages in the required textbooks than making sure the class understands what is being taught? Can we criticize the instructors for trying to make the pupils learn facts from books which are outdated and dull? Is it right to censure teachers for following a burdensome and restrictive fixed curriculum? Where can we begin to revitalize this decadent situation?

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