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JONATHAN TURLEY **(https://jonathanturley.org/)**

Res ipsa loquitur – The thing itself speaks



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[December 19, 2023 \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/)

Achieving Equity Through Mediocrity: Chicago Moves to Eliminate “High-Achieving” School Programs

[\(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/)



<https://i0.wp.com/jonathanturley.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/chicagopublicschoolslogo.png?ssl=1> Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson and the Chicago Board of Education are following the lead of other major cities and eliminating gifted school programs in the name of achieving greater racial and social “equity.” Eleven “high-achieving selective-enrollment schools” will be eliminated, according to

Chicago Board of Education CEO Pedro Martinez, to reduce “stratification and inequity.” As we have [previously discussed \(https://jonathanturley.org/2021/10/15/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-why-elimination-of-gifted-programs-should-worry-us-all/\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2021/10/15/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-why-elimination-of-gifted-programs-should-worry-us-all/), major cities with failing public education programs are erasing performance gaps in their schools by decapitating the top performers rather than elevating the performance overall. Other schools have also [eliminated or lowered proficiency standards \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/10/24/oregon-schools-eliminate-proficiency-requirements-in-math-and-english-for-students/\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/10/24/oregon-schools-eliminate-proficiency-requirements-in-math-and-english-for-students/) to achieve higher passage rates. According to the [Daily Mail, \(https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12864439/Chicago-Mayor-Brandon-Johnson-selective-enrollment-high-schools.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=social-twitter_mailonline\)](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12864439/Chicago-Mayor-Brandon-Johnson-selective-enrollment-high-schools.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=social-twitter_mailonline) the Board will vote today on the Mayor’s plan with the support of the president. The Chicago Tribune blasted Johnson in [an editorial \(https://www.chicagotribune.com/opinion/editorials/ct-editorial-chicago-education-selective-enrollment-schools-ctu-20231213-743huxbg6fcwrkix2nhlv4vooa-story.html\)](https://www.chicagotribune.com/opinion/editorials/ct-editorial-chicago-education-selective-enrollment-schools-ctu-20231213-743huxbg6fcwrkix2nhlv4vooa-story.html) for reneging on a campaign promise not to abolish the selective

schools. President Jianan Shi has portrayed gifted programs as just adding stress by allowing some students to achieve higher levels of education. Shi declared “the goal is [...] to change (the) current competition model so that students are not pitted against one another, schools are not pitted against one another.” Some of these targeted schools are among the nation’s top performers, including Walter Payton College Prep (ranked 10th), Northside College Prep (ranked 37th), and Jones College Prep (ranked 60th). However, these schools only highlight the failure of the system overall. One can imagine how thrilled countries like China must be as we decapitate our educational system to bring down both standards and schools to a low median.

As previously discussed, school boards and teacher unions have long treated parents as unwelcome interlopers in their children’s education.

That view was captured (<https://www.foxnews.com/media/iowa-school-board-member-gets-ripped-saying-public-ed-teach-kids-parents-want>) in the comment of Iowa school board member Rachel Wall, who said: “The purpose of a public ed is to not teach kids what the parents want. It is to teach them what society needs them to know. The client is not the parent, but the community.”

State Rep. Lee Snodgrass (D-Wis.) tweeted (<https://fox11online.com/news/education/appleton-lawmaker-deletes-tweet-about-parents-having-a-say-in-their-childs-education>): “If parents want to ‘have a say’ in their child’s education, they should home school or pay for private school tuition out of their family budget.”

Parents who question unpopular policies are often treated as extremists.

Michelle Leete, vice president of training at the Virginia PTA and vice president of communications for the Fairfax County PTA, said parents (<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/fairfax-activist-let-them-die>) would not force them to reverse their agenda: “Let them die. Don’t let these uncomfortable people deter us from our bold march forward.”

I have been a huge supporter of public schools my whole life. While my parents could afford private schools, they helped form a group to keep white families in the public school system in Chicago in the 1960s and 1970s. They wanted their kids to be part of a diverse school environment. I also sent my kids to public schools for the same reason. I view our public schools as important parts of our society as we shape future citizens.

Teachers and boards are killing the institution of public education by treating children and parents more like captives than consumers. They are force-feeding social and political priorities, including passes for engaging in approved protests (<https://jonathanturley.org/2019/09/17/new-york-city-gives-1-1-million-students-free-pass-from-school-to-join-climate-change-protests/>).

As public schools continue to produce abysmal scores (<https://jonathanturley.org/2021/03/05/baltimore-student-who-failed-all-but-three-classes-in-four-years-was-ranked-in-top-half-of-his-class/>), particularly for minority students, board and union officials have called for lowering or suspending proficiency standards (<https://jonathanturley.org/2021/08/10/oregon-suspends-need-for-high-school-graduates-to-be-proficient-in-reading-writing-and-math/>) or declared (<https://jonathanturley.org/2021/02/07/we-cannot-mince-words-san-francisco-education-official-denounces-meritocracy-as-racist/>) meritocracy to be a form of “white supremacy.” Gifted and talented programs are being eliminated (<https://jonathanturley.org/2021/10/15/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-why-elimination-of-gifted-programs-should-worry-us-all/>) in the name of “equity.”

Once parents have a choice, these teachers lose a virtual monopoly over many families, and these districts could lose billions (<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/education/os-ne-florida-school-voucher-expansion-impact-20230124-6e6wcaxzqncbjey3dzxgdjmtr4-story.html>) in states like Florida.

Chicago is literally telling families of highly competitive students to leave public education or reduce their expectations. For those who can afford it, they must now look to private or religious schools. Most cannot afford such choices and the state has long been hostile to vouchers. Indeed, the state (which has long been dominated by the far-left teachers union) recently became the first state to rollback on vouchers as other states are expanding such programs.

As a proud Chicago native, it is hard to watch what is happening in the city under Johnson and this city council. I still hope that sanity will take hold in the city before they do irreversible damage, but this education plan hastens the decline of one of America's greatest cities.

153 Comments (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/#comments>)

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Eric Swalwell and the Politics of Contempt

(<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/18/eric-swallow-and-the-politics-of-contempt/>)

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Georgetown Publishes Turley Free Speech Work

(<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/georgetown-publishes-turley-free-speech-work/>)

153 thoughts on “Achieving Equity Through Mediocrity: Chicago Moves to Eliminate “High-Achieving” School Programs”

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GEB says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:17 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349095>)

And that is why people are leaving Illinois even faster than NY or California percentage wise. I cannot understand why the people of Chicago continue to vote in these fools. As pointed out above, those that value and use education do well either as an ethnic group or a nation. That was one of the many reasons for the success of the US. We did not have necessarily the greatest educational system in the world but we had millions of well taught individuals from public schools who could adapt well to the modern world as it evolved and makes a success of it. Or even lead it. I was in public school 1-12 and it was excellent but it was also non unionized. Chicago, a once great city is just rotting away at its core. Sad to see and I only live a 120 miles away in Indiana. Evan Bayh (D) as governor let teachers unionize with an executive order but then when a Republican assumed the helm afterward, the union ceased. Strange, no more strikes.

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 9:12 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349093\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349093)

It's always amusing when a lifelong democrat like Turley critiizes a place like Chicago that has been controlled by democrats since the first Ice Age, but doesn't see the connection between the failure of the city and the party that controls it in perpetuity, and attributes what Chicago's educational system is today to the failures of just the latest clown to get elected mayor, when he hasn't even been in office yet for a year.

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Prairie Rose says:

[December 19, 2023 at 9:05 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349091\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349091)

“As previously discussed, school boards and teacher unions have long treated parents as unwelcome interlopers in their children’s education.”

I think you are mistaken. The administration, such as the superintendent and curriculum and instruction directors, who more closely fit this description. School boards, who are supposed to approve and have oversight of curriculum, in my estimation, barely look at or critique the curriculum. School board members have apparently handed over authority to the superintendent and curriculum instruction directors, saying ridiculous things like “I don’t have a degree in education” or “I don’t know what kids should learn in calculus”. Are they learning about science and the natural world broadly and using the scientific method? Are they learning history at all? Are they reading excellent literature? Are they learning about persuasion and the machinations of men who desire power? Are they learning to write and communicate clearly and, if at all possible, legibly? Are they learning to appreciate and even seek truth, goodness, and beauty?

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Ole Man says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:50 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349083\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349083)

I don't think I would admit to being a proud democrat or a graduate of Harvard, both are ruining the United States.

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:36 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349079\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349079)

“I view our public schools as important parts of our society as we shape future citizens.”

I would have to ask JT why he thinks this. The fact that he doesn't write “Public schools are important for teaching our children standards” tells everything you need to know. Until we allow parents who have children in K-12 to take the states tax money spent on their kids education and shop around for the best school, we will continue this decline. The public education monopoly needs to be broken up.

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:24 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349077\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349077)

“As a proud Chicago native, it is hard to watch what is happening in the city under Johnson and this city council”

— especially since Chicago was such a paragon of educational excellence under previous Mayors Lori Lightfoot and Rahm Emanuel. LOL LOL LOL

Maybe the Professor should seek the opinion of someone who ISN’T a lifelong democrat and was educated elsewhere than Chicago.

Meanwhile, another story that has nothing to do with law.

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[iowan2 \(http://gravatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c\)](http://gravatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:34 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349078\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349078)

“Meanwhile, another story that has nothing to do with law

Meanwhile another person too stupid to understand our host writes what interests him.

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:49 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349081\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349081)

Well said. It appears Anonymous is a terribly unhappy person. How sad.

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:56 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349088\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349088)

Still more ad hominem attacks by Turleyville morons that think criticism is evil.

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[iowan2 \(http://gravatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c\)](http://gravatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 10:10 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349112\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349112)

baseless criticism is is evil.

Turley has always blogged what is of interest to him. Criticizing his conclusions if fair game. Criticizing his choice of topics in none of your concern. Turley has NEVER held this platform was a law blog. He is a lawyer and Professor that blogs daily. You choice is to go find a law blog. Not to complain about his choice of topics

Grow up

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:54 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349087>)

Meanwhile, another one of Turley's hired trolls weighs in, acting like an attack dog at the slightest criticism. Woof woof, moron. Get a REAL job.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:56 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349108>)

It will be interesting when Professor Turley publishes the results of his experiment in FREE SPEECH.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 11:52 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349161>)

Because there will be tangible data points? FO shrew

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 12:12 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349169>)

Anyone who posts here is a data point.

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UpstateFarmer says:

December 19, 2023 at 10:21 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349121>)

Iowan2,

The good professor is pointing out how corrupt, insane and immoral his party has become. He is trying to warn everyone of what many of us are seeing with our own eyes.

Even other long time Democrats like Bill Maher, Elon Musk and James Carville see the same. Maher and Carville have go so far to call out the woke leftists that have taken over the party as insane and stupid.

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S. Meyer says:

December 19, 2023 at 1:56 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349199>)

“Even other long time Democrats like Bill Maher, Elon Musk and James Carville see the same. ”

Upstate, don't forget Donald Trump. He was a Democrat in this century until 2009.

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 8:21 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349076\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349076)

Understand the Democrat party platform is core valued in making this nation poor. In is impossible to make all people rich. Therefore the only solution is to make all POOR. We have been centuries watching this play out repeatedly. It always ends the same.

The quote comes to mind. "beggars are much easier to control"

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 9:21 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349096\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349096)

Hate to break the news but stock markets just hit record highs, 3rd quarter GDP is 5.2%, oil production hit an all-time high of 13.2 million barrels of oil a day. Yep, those irresponsible Democrats definitely need to be called out for jacking up the value of our 401ks just before Christmas.

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 10:13 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349114\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349114)

stocks are doing extremely well. 71% of the DJI are under performing their expectations.

Now that it is not President Trump, the stock market matters? Doublestandardstan has been heard from

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 10:28 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349124\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349124)

Sorry, that was suppose to read 7 stocks are doing extremely well. 71% of the DJI are performing below expectations, on file with the SEC

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UpstateFarmer says:

[December 19, 2023 at 10:32 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349128\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349128)

Iowan2,

60% of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck.

More people are using food banks ever than before.

More people are carrying credit card balances than ever.

People are having to work two or three jobs to make ends meet.

Due to poor economic conditions, the majority of small business are not seeing a holiday sales bump as more Americans are short on cash.

More people are having to raid their retirement savings and 401k to make ends meet.

Inflation is still hammering people in their pocketbooks.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 11:54 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349162>)

Dumping \$6T will tend to make markets rise. Good. some of those with 401k's can withdraw to make their mortgage payments.

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Edwardmahl says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:29 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349100>)

Iowan – the people at the top will not be poor. And they will never leave office.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:19 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349075>)

Atom bombs are less destructive than socialism. Even Hiroshima and Nagasaki managed to bounce back from being bombed, and are doing much better now than socialist-led cities such as Chicago.

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Iowan2 (<http://gravatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:16 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349073>)

I found this just now in search of something else

The primary difference between rich and poor countries is productivity. Being productive unleashes opportunities for innovation and wealth creation. Poverty is the natural condition of humanity, and countries get rich by adding to the world's capital stock. Taiwan, South Korea, and Singapore are resource-poor countries relative to African and Latin American countries, but due to high levels of productivity and innovation, they have joined the ranks of the elites.

Another characteristic of successful countries is the high quality of their institutions. When institutions are designed to facilitate entrepreneurship and capital formation people will be more motivated to produce because their efforts won't be penalized. According to a landmark study, cross-country differences in productivity are a consequence of institutional quality. Likewise, institutional quality also determines a country's ability to attract investors.

The quote I was looking for might have been HG Wells

It is along the lines. 'The natural state of man is poverty. from time to time men come along that change that and prosperity overcomes all. those men are attacked and driven out for their success, and again man slips back into

poverty. . . . “this is known as bad luck”

Share if you run across the actual quote, with attribution

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:46 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349080>)

How about sharing the attribution to your italicized paragraphs. Attributing quotes to a source is something people generally learn to do in high school, if not much sooner, unless maybe they were educated in Chicago.

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

December 19, 2023 at 10:18 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349119>)

It was a random blog post., I found searching for the quote. Attribution is meaningless because I disclosed the words are not mine. Who spoke them is irrelevant. (see Federalist Papers). I agree with the thesis. YMMV. I just found it interesting that GDP goes down with the excellence of societies institutions decline. A core topic of this post.

You are free to argue against the idea.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:53 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349086>)

I first noticed that something was happening to America right after Y2K. American LPGA girls were consistently falling in the world rankings so quickly.

I blame it on the iPhone.

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guyventner says:

December 19, 2023 at 7:56 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349069>)

democrats and the people backing them don't want equity
they want FAILURE

look at any city they have run!

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Sam says:

December 19, 2023 at 7:51 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349067>)

“. . . to reduce ‘stratification and inequity.’”

That’s brilliant. Make all students equally ignorant. The ignorant are easier to control.

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whig98 (<http://gravavatar.com/whig98>) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 7:44 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349065\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349065)

“The Chicago Tribune blasted Johnson in an editorial for reneging on a campaign promise not to abolish the selective schools.”

This is what Communists do, and these people are, as we used to say, Reds.

Alas for the once vibrant and fun city of Chicago. Used to look forward to my work-related trips there. I now bypass the place like the plague

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 7:42 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349064\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349064)

The mind virus is alive and well in Democrat big cities. The forces of darkness, ignorance, and incompetence are ascendant now. “You have to see it to believe it. It’s the end of civilization.”

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Edwardmahl says:

[December 19, 2023 at 11:24 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349144\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349144)

Someone should write a book comparing Detroit and Hiroshima in 1945 and 2023. Apparently, it is easier to recover from atomic bombs than from the Democratic Party.

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JAFO says:

[December 19, 2023 at 11:58 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349163\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349163)

Not a book but this meme describes the point...

<https://www.facebook.com/turningpointusa/photos/a.376802782368444/1183007121748002/?type=3>
(<https://www.facebook.com/turningpointusa/photos/a.376802782368444/1183007121748002/?type=3>)

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Anonymous says:

[December 19, 2023 at 7:19 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349058\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349058)

As I've said/wrote since 2000, most schools fail their students, teaching kids what to think, not how to think... funding should be cut off to many school systems until the get back to basics. [As an employer, I've noticed how poorly even college graduates do on basic reading and writing].

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:51 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349084>)

“written”

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 7:19 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349057>)

The Board of Education

Board of Education



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Stephen C Schwarz says:

December 19, 2023 at 7:04 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349054>)

I, for one, am delighted my these developments. Isn't it obvious that we need to abolish our current model of a public education system of the teachers, by the teachers, for the teachers? What we should do, and what others countries have already done, is implement a voucher system and let parents choose the schools their children go to. And idiocy of this sort is only bringing that day closer.

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Prairie Rose says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:23 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349097>)

Vouchers are another way to disenfranchise the citizenry. Vouchers take away taxpayer control over their own money. Unelected parents will make decisions with other people's money.

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 10:25 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349122\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349122)

Vouchers are another way to disenfranchise the citizenry. Vouchers take away taxpayer control over their own money.

This makes no sense. Voucher allow tax money for education get spent by the taxpayer for education.

The public school system has a huge, insurmountable advantage over private schools, UNTIL the public schools ignore the customer and deliver what the customer does not want to by.

This could all be reversed before the start of the next semester. But the power that be refuse to listen to their customer.

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UpstateFarmer says:

[December 19, 2023 at 10:54 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349136\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349136)

My children are grown and out in the world on their own.

I still pay property taxes that go toward funding public schools.

I would rather parents have vouchers to use their and my money on the school of their choice that benefit their child the best.

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JAFO says:

[December 19, 2023 at 12:18 PM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349172\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349172)

THE NERVE of those 'unelected parents'! Is that your position, PR? Parents are taxpayers too, and maybe, just maybe, they just want more accountability and educational-bang for their own hard earned yet quickly-confiscated tax dollars, for their own children's education? HOW DARE THEY decide on their own the public education system is failing in front of their lying eyes? Amiright?

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OLLY (<http://jdoliverdotcom.wordpress.com>) says:

[December 19, 2023 at 3:01 PM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349227\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349227)

Huh? When did you sell your soul to the teacher's union, Prairie Rose? Every time JT's posts about the failure of public education, you come to it's defense. No one is arguing public education needs to end. It just cannot continue under the current model.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 6:38 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349048>)

Vote Republican. Also: “gifts” in the first paragraph should be “gifted.” “Educations” programs in P6 should be “educational.” “Hostile vouchers” should be “hostile to vouchers.”

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 7:01 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349053>)

Agreed.....who proof reads these posts, Mr. Turley? This one is not an isolated incident.

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iowan2 (<http://gravatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:00 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349071>)

ou pedantic twits start paying \$18.53 per month, and our gracious host will give you perfectly written pieces. Until then STFU. You have earned exactly zero power to critique. (have you offered to “edit” each post within five minutes. . . for free?)

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:50 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349082>)

LOL — MORON.

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Svelaz says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:06 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349072>)

It's pretty ironic that the professor is critical of these education initiatives while demonstrating in his own column grammatical failures that shouldn't exist at his level.

Either the professor is sloppy and relies on students to proof read his work before publishing or the students in charge of proof reading are equally sloppy or are plainly just not ‘educated’ enough to spot grammar errors. It should be embarrassing for the professor.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:52 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349085>)

I can't believe I just gave you a like. We are truly living in miraculous times.

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Sam says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:00 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349090>)

“proof read”

Is one word. As are its variations.

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

December 19, 2023 at 2:31 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349214>)

grammatical failures that shouldn't exist at his level.

What level is that? Writing for his own fun and edification? The man is published. If you think grammar checking his notes on the back of an envelope elevates your standing, you are the fool

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Sam says:

December 19, 2023 at 3:13 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349230>)

“ . . . who proof reads . . . ”

Who *proofreads* your comments?

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Prairie Rose says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:14 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349094>)

“Vote Republican”

They are just as bad. They are not interested in making sure the kids are getting a sound education Thomas Jefferson would be proud of. The Republican school board members I know care about keep taxes low. They say they don't know anything about education and so they effectively pass their oversight authority to the administration. Meanwhile, the administration looks to the interests of businesses or the mandates of the Feds. Republicans, as far as I can tell, will not be making sure kids are getting an education necessary for a free people in a constitutional republic.

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S. Meyer says:

December 19, 2023 at 9:56 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349107>)

Prairie, I don't know about the past, but if you take a state like Florida that has had recent conservative administrations, we see quite a difference. Florida's education has demonstrated continuous improvement and is rated very highly today. I think, in order to make a statement like you have, one should look at the

data first.

For some reason, you like the way the teachers union has behaved. The union is terrible and should be tossed out. Today, the teachers union is nothing more than a political pawn.

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iowan2 (<http://gravavatar.com/dancy56801edd055c4c>) says:

December 19, 2023 at 2:41 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349219>)

the purpose of education is to prepare a person to earn money to support themselves, family and community. People do that by learning a trade, or getting educated in a profession.

The Jr College echo system is full of courses, taught in buildings, using equipment provided by businesses, eager to train new employees. Caterpillar trains diesel mechanics in shops they built using teaching materials they provide. Same with John Deere. Rest assured, those places are not graduating students that have failed to learn the content. There are zero woke diesel mechanics. Their time was more than filled learning thing important to their success.

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Edwardmahl says:

December 19, 2023 at 6:30 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349047>)

As Dr Johnson said: socialists want to level down, but not to level up.

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Anonymous says:

December 19, 2023 at 8:17 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349074>)

Fact Check: True.

Margaret Thatcher - "They'd rather have the poor poorer."



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Gordy Thomas (<http://www.GordyThomas.com>) says:

December 19, 2023 at 6:27 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349046>)

“Jeder nach seinen Fähigkeiten, jedem nach seinen Bedürfnissen...” ~ K. Marx

I guess if your IQ is higher and you need a greater challenge, that’s not covered by Socialist school boards?

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ZZDoc says:

December 19, 2023 at 6:23 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349045>)

This community persists on hoisting itself by its own petards and then blaming their destruction on the manufacturer’s defective product.

<https://www.marinschools.org/cms/lib/CA01001323/Centricity/Domain/1250/Soft%20Bigotry%20of%20Low%20Expectations.pdf>

(<https://www.marinschools.org/cms/lib/CA01001323/Centricity/Domain/1250/Soft%20Bigotry%20of%20Low%20Expectations.pdf>)

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ZZDoc says:

December 19, 2023 at 6:43 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/12/19/achieving-equity-through-mediocrity-chicago-moves-to-eliminate-high-achieving-school-programs/comment-page-1/#comment-2349050>)

I no longer have any impetus to lobby for the interests of those in communities of color who elect or support public officials of that ilk. This plan is, in of itself, a reversed ‘Peter Principal’ by which, ‘reducing stratification and inequity’, the outcomes serve to lower the student body to a uniform level of incompetence.

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Jonathan ...  
@ · Apr 3, 2020

Jim Acosta's interruption of Dr. Birx is an example of how CNN's echo-journalism model is destroying the media's credibility. Every question from Acosta is an effort to score points rather than elicit information. It is a press pandemic that continues to rage without relief.

4K 49K



Jonathan ...  
· Mar 30, 2020

CNN is running a headline that Trump "now" claims Easter was aspirational. I have criticized Trump statements but he never said Easter was a firm deadline as opposed to his hope. The unrelentingly negative spin on stories makes it difficult for viewers to trust the media.

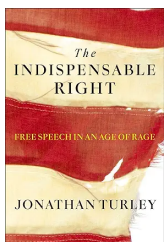
4K 48K



Jonathan ...  
@ · Feb 4, 2020

Pelosi's act dishonored the institution and destroyed even the pretense of civility and decorum in the House. If this is the Speaker's "drop the mike" moment, it is a disgrace that should never be celebrated or repeated. In a single act, she obliterated decades of tradition.

20K 45K













The Indispensable Right: Free Speech in the Age of Rage is now available for preorder. You can now lock in a lower price by [ordering in advance](https://jonathanturley.org/pre-order-turley-book-2/) (<https://jonathanturley.org/pre-order-turley-book-2/>).

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Res ipsa loquitur – The thing itself speaks

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