



# **The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America: A Chronological Paper Trail**

*Charlotte Thomson Iserbyt*

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## The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America: A Chronological Paper Trail Details

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# **From Reader Review The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America: A Chronological Paper Trail for online ebook**

## **LeahMarie Silverman says**

I read (or started to read) the Deliberate Dumbing Down of America by Charlotte Thomson Iserbyt because a homeschooling association emailed me the free pdf (which is available on the interwebs). I gotta stop reading these books that homeschoolers love. It's like they are trying to talk me out of homeschooling.

I decided to read this one only because I thought she couldn't really mean that the decline of America's education system was deliberate. That would be crazy, right? Well, it is crazy. It is chalk full of crazy.

My first clue that I probably wasn't going to finish this book was in the foreward: "American social engineers have systematically gone about destroying the intellect of millions of American children for the purpose of leading the American people into a socialist world government controlled by behavioral and social scientist." Really? If only this could be satirical, that sentence would be okay. But since it was intentional, it is just sad.

And then in her preface, the author goes on and on about the socialist/fascist agenda, and their intentions to create a global workforce... blah, blah, blah. It is basically comes off as the ramblings of an incredibly paranoid person. I'm not saying that Iserbyt is that person, just that it this book doesn't rule that out.

The worst part about this book, and the reason that I didn't finish, is that it actually contains more fiction than it does fact. Each chapter takes on a decade of "history" where she lists her evidence. It is almost completely uncited (there is a whole lot of "this person said blah, blah, blah" without any proof that anyone said anything like it), and what is cited is often clearly taken out of context. This kind of "source material" just makes me angry. I won't go so far as to say its all a bunch of lies, because I think she believes the case she is making. But, there is no proof any of it is true.

Look, I think there is plenty wrong with the public school system in America. That is the reason I'm considering homeschooling my children. But this? This conspiracy business just makes homeschoolers look like a bunch of wackadoodles.

Other people have said this was a terrifying read because of what it revealed. The only scary thing about this book, to me, is that there are people who believe it.

Reading With My Eyes Shut

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## **Bridget says**

It's no surprise that our education system is headed for the dump. This is a very detailed collection of events and publication excerpts that portrays the decline of public school education. It is a laborious read and put me to sleep many nights to the point where I had to just skim read the last half.

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## **Roslyn says**

This book can be summarized well with a loose quote from the preface: If a child can read, write and compute at a reasonably proficient level, he will be able to do just about anything he wishes with his life, able to control his destiny. Because providing such basic proficiencies is not and should not be an expensive or complicated proposition, it becomes obvious that it is only a radical social agenda to brainwash our children that is the costly proposition--and complicated to hide what's really going on.

I couldn't put this book down. But I don't think it is for everyone. It's extremely important and wow, what an immense amount of work and knowledge the author provides! But it's not easy reading. It's a paper trail of extremely annoying political writing and over-complicated attempts by person after person to first appeal to someone's emotional rather than rational brain and then slip in some tricky language so that everyone agrees with whatever he says. So... totally obnoxious annoying shit. But sometimes fun if you enjoy the puzzle. And just mostly horrifying. I have never wanted to leave this country more.

Crazy how the government documents would have me convinced for fifty pages that the idea came from a good place and would do some good for the kiddies (like getting rid of grades and apprenticeships) but then how it turns out to be totally evil.

When the government pushes for "no grades" what they are really pushing for is a different kind of grade, grading on things the government values. So instead of grades that measure work, the "grade-free" report cards are all about a student's timeliness, attitude, effort, cooperation, responsiveness to authority, etc. This is NOT what I think of when I think of "no grades." So here are the characteristics that a totalitarian government wants in its citizens. These are the traits that will get you ahead, get you into the good schools, the good jobs--not brain power, but obedience. The more obedient will be rewarded with jobs that give them power. It's brilliant. And totally Hitler-esque.

In the 90's teachers were required in almost all public schools to make behavior part of the kids grade--whether the teacher wanted to or not. It's all about baby steps.

When government pushes for "apprenticeships", it sounds so good! I totally support apprenticeships! That's what I want for my son! But reeeally, when you make apprenticeships part of the school program, you put the government in control of jobs. Kids and parents aren't out there looking for an apprenticeship that their child wants, the government decides what the kid gets based on his grades in school (and remember his most important grade is obedience). A few more baby steps and now you can only get a license to work as a baker if you have done an apprenticeship and you can't get an apprenticeship without the government... the government controls the jobs and we are a communist country.

I used to think that the schools had been taken over by the Democrats and that's why most people couldn't graduate from college without becoming a liberal, now I know that I was really onto something. The schools were taken over by behaviorists (on the payroll of Carnegie, Ford and Rockefeller) with a brainwashing agenda to make the US fascist/socialist a long long time ago.

The fact that it took so long shows the weaknesses of behaviorism and the strength of our old values. But baby steps, money, patience, "research," and 100 years and our country is pretty much socialist (but we call it freedom here!) Politics will follow ideology. Don't worry about today's men. Just take over the schools, brainwash the kids and everything will fall into place!

I am super curious about brainwashing now. Fascinating that what is taught does not matter as much as how it is taught. It is the methods that make people automatons who cannot think for themselves, not the subject matter. "The method IS the message."

That's the problem with brainwashing and socialism and government--as long as you agree with what they are doing to everyone else, it's great! "Make them dumb religious folk turn to science! This country would be a much better place if we all supported abortion, gay marriage, and evolution!" I can just hear people I know cheering. But then when those in power decide to "Make them horrible rebels send their kids to public brainwash school, make them horrible hippies vaccinate their babies, make them dissenters take mood-altering drugs, make people eat what we tell them to eat..." WHY DON'T PEOPLE SEE THIS? It's all the same! It doesn't matter what you are MAKING people do, it doesn't matter how good you think it will be for them or the world, the problem IS the MAKING.

Dear Would-Be Socialist Dictators, please read Non Violent Communication and Choice Theory. And John Locke. There IS another way. We don't actually all have to agree on ANYTHING except to respect each other.

My biggest complaint about this book is that I wish Charlotte wrote more. I want to know more of her thoughts about education and solutions. And, I don't need such a long paper trails. One or two documents per category would have been fine. And I gotta say, I wouldn't have minded if she held my hand a little more. This book is like Iserbyt got out her file of evidence and published it. I would like her to write a new book with short chapters based around each regulation or educational platform rather than chronology. It could accompany this book so that when she refers to "Project INSTRUCT" I can flip open this book and read a one page summary about project Instruct, who started it, who is pushing for it, what its real agenda is, etc.

Dear Charlotte, I appreciate your work here so much! Would love to take you to lunch....

And for parents like me who want to know what I concluded from this book without having to read it:

- Absolutely no public school for your kids
- If you want to do private school, make sure the teachers are experts in their fields and do NOT have teaching credentials, and try an alternative style Montessori or Acton
- If you chose to homeschool, do not do it through the public system and be very careful about whatever system you choose. Probably best for you to be the teacher. Remember the quote at the top--With basic math, reading, and writing skills your child will be able to do almost anything he wishes with his life. This is not a costly or complicated thing to teach your child.
- Flee, flee the country. And vote for freedom in every area about everything at all time. Vote to take power away from the government.

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## **Budd Turner says**

Paper trail of the "education reform" over the past century.

Depressing, helped me decide to get out of the education enterprise, away from budget politics and the good ole boy/gal net I was never invited into.

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## Recynd says

I've not read/studied this book yet, though I've listened to many hours of her lectures on various, related subjects. If anyone is interested, she IS a compelling speaker, if you can get through her introduction. Just enter "Iserbyt" in the search box on YouTube and lots of videos will pop up.

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While I haven't read the book cover to cover (this is more of a reference book), I have read enough of it to get the idea. It is well-written and very, very informative. This is an excellent companion to John Taylor Gatto's "An Underground History of American Education".

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## Sally says

free download on her site. saw a clip on youtube....

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## Philnotfil says

A great compilation of primary sources, but the editorializing between the primary sources often skews the perception of what was happening in those primary sources. Worth having access to, but be aware of the heavy bias in the editorial commentary.

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## Karan says

Did not read the whole thing...okay...didn't have time to read it since it is not a book, it is a tome...but she does have a great deal of documents - and these are troubling. Is it credible? I think the greatest evidence is the educational tailspin our current generation is experiencing.

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## wally says

this lady, i believe she was secretary of education at some point during the reagan years, had been away, out of the country, where i don't recall. she returns to the u.s.a. and is shocked by what she sees in american education. she compiled this book.

i read it a few years ago and it just came to me, just now, in a flash and i don't even want a pickle.

so...here i am, writing this. i read it on-line....did i use that hyphen correctly? and does it matter?

anyway, this work, as the sub-title says....(hyphen hyphen....where's my notes?) "a chronological paper trail."

she documents **the deliberate dumbing down of america**...yeah, sure, you're thinking, what a conspiracy nutcase? am i right? thing is, she doesn't provide commentary, she simply records the paper trail....

...unlike say John Taylor Gatto, who in his *The Underground History of American Education: An Intimate Investigation Into the Prison of Modern Schooling* **does** provide commentary.

reading this, you understand why the network news, (you do recall dan rather coming out, stage left, during the election w/a paper suggesting george bush's old man kept him out of the war? or whatever? and cbs, bastion of "that's the way it was" does it w/o blinking an eye?)

sorry, getting away from the matter at hand, this work by iserbyt.

i mean, but....and so the paper trail is there, you can read it and ignore it...like i said, she doesn't provide commentary....so, like, does that mean it is objective?

words, words, words, so said our favorite dane....

this book is one of many that document the same story.

well worth a read! i can't remember what year i read it....

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### **John Smith says**

I basically admire the thesis and intent of this book. But I fault it for its format and execution. This book is one long last, paragraph after paragraph, of quotations from sources which together allegedly show a "deliberate" dumbing down. Moe interpretation needed.

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### **Boky Oo says**

You have *The Deliberate Dumbing Down of America*, Revised and Abridged Edition on Amazon:  
<http://www.amazon.com/Deliberate-Dumb...>

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### **Travis Koch says**

More Crimes Against Humanity...

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### **Zalee Harris says**

By the time I finished reading BK Eakman's *"Cloning the American Mind"*, I was fired up. A community friend connected me with Chalotte Iserbyt. Chalotte came to Maryland to be a keynote speaker at annual PTA Awards meeting I co-planned. She shipped 100 copies of this book and she gave autographed copies of this book to all that attended. We became friends. For me, this book connected the dots in the research I was doing regarding the education system where I lived.

If you want to understand the process of education reform in America, this book is the road map. Chalotte is

working on a new manual. To get prepared for her new release, you must read this book. This is a must have have reference manual for all education advocates.

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### **Joyce says**

...it was prophetic, in a measurable and statistical way, i.e. rational, orderly, and, hence, scientific!

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### **ELB says**

I read this book a few years ago, it is a great book! I loaned it to my cousin, he loaned it to his father-in-law, the Mother-in-law read it and I don't know where it is today but at least a few people got to read it before it disappeared. This book convinced me to home school my daughter, I'm so happy that I did. She has graduated Home High School, her senior year, she passed 7 College C.L.E.P. exams, for 27 College credits. 6 credits for American History 1 & 2, 3 credits for psychology, 3 credits for sociology, 3 credits for college algebra, 3 credits for American Government and 6 credits for American Literature, 3 credits for Human Growth and development.

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