Championing The Common Good

Walter M. Kimbrough
President
Dillard University
1967

Four Defining Events
Impacting the Common Good
Defining Event 1

Benjamin Mays leaves Morehouse
Twenty-seven years of success and failure
May 30, 1967

• Thought he would be able to get financial support from Atlanta. “The Negro colleges in Atlanta are not considered part and parcel of the life of the community.”

• Felt school was too conservative: “I sometimes think we are allergic to change. We tend to be more tied to tradition and the past. Our danger lies in complacency, a disease that plagues all too many colleges.”
Twenty-seven years of success and failure

• On competition: “The future of Morehouse will depend upon the ability to ‘buy’ the intellectually talented students, just as many of the predominantly white institutions are able to do with finances given for that purpose.”
Defining Event 2

Create Deficit Narrative of Schools
Designed for The Common Good
Jencks and Riesman

“The American Negro College”
Harvard Educational Review
Jencks and Riesman

• “The Negro college of the 1950’s was usually an ill-financed, ill-staffed caricature of white higher education.”

• “What has been the case is that the great majority of Negro institutions stand near the tail end of the academic procession in terms of student aptitudes, faculty creativity, and intellectual and moral ferment.”
Jencks and Riesman (cont)

• “By almost any standard, these colleges are academic disaster areas. Underpaid as their faculty members usually are, many of them could not make as much elsewhere. Some, indeed, could not get any other academic job.”
• “Colleges such as these admit almost any high school graduate who will pay tuition, and graduate most of those who keep paying.”
Defining Event 3

Ronald Wilson Reagan Elected Governor of California
Reagan's 1967 Speech Changed Purpose Of College Forever, Says Journalist

Reagan's Budget In California Cuts Called For Ending 'Intellectual Luxuries'
Since Reagan’s 1967 speech, Berrett argues that the rhetoric swirling around higher education funding has influenced federal and state policy. “There’s been a documented drop in state higher ed appropriations... and really the rhetoric that Reagan deployed in 1967 previewed some larger structural changes,” Berrett said. One of those structural changes, Berrett said, is the fact that higher education started to be seen more as a private good instead of a public one.
Freeloaders!
Tax Eaters!
Welfare Queens!
Deadbeats!
When College Was a Public Good

As the population has grown more diverse, support for grand efforts like the GI Bill to open doors to higher education has dwindled. Coincidence?

By Scott Carlson | NOVEMBER 27, 2016

The GI Bill opened the doors to college to returning World War II veterans, including many from immigrant families. They joined the professional class and became further integrated into American society.
“Those kids don’t need college.”
"It’s not hard to figure out that when people say ‘those kids,’ it’s a euphemism for African-American kids, Latino kids, Native American kids," Mr. Rhoades says.
“White people my age are not going to vote to educate Hispanic kids or black kids.”

- Anthony Carnevale, 70
Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce
"All the great advances in education (Morrill Act to create land-grant colleges in 1862 and the GI Bill to educate veterans of World War II) have come when there was a strong white majority."

- Anthony Carnevale
By making college unaffordable and student loans unbearable, we risk deterring our best and brightest from pursuing higher education and securing a good paying job.

Mark Pocan via Gecko&Fly
Parents’ average out-of-pocket spending has declined

$8,752 in 2010

$5,727 in 2013

MAKE A PLAN
Build a plan to pay for all years, not just one year at a time. If a student needs to borrow, first explore federal loans and then fill the gap with responsible private education loans.

The national study by Sallie Mae, How America Pays for College 2013, conducted by Ipsos, is a compelling look at how today’s families view college, manage college costs, and use various funding sources. For the full study, please visit SallieMae.com/HowAmericaPays.

#HowAmericaPays
What Is The Common Good?
What Does It Look Like?
I Did Say 4 Events, Right?