

Choice is death sentence for private and home education

School vouchers to pay for private/religious education will dumb down all education

By **CHARLOTTE THOMPSON ISERBYT**
Times Record Contributor

The Supreme Court's recent 5-4 decision (conservatives in the majority) allowing vouchers to pay for private/religious education will dumb down all education.

I can already hear the howling from voucher-supporting conservatives when the government lands on a private school denying it the right to determine "what is right and what is wrong" related to curriculum, testing, hiring procedures, the Pledge of Allegiance, etc.

Is school choice a plot to implement the socialist, corporate fascist, workforce training agenda for the global planned economy? You betcha.

This decision will carry out the long-standing internationalist goal of total control of all education, public and private, including religious and home school, through the dollar.

The late Robert Hutchins, former president of the University of Chicago and a supporter of world government, would be ecstatic over the voucher decision. In an article by Virgil C. Blum in the *Commonwealth*, Jan. 31, 1964 titled "Freedom and Equality" Blum says:

"Dr. Robert M. Hutchins sees no constitutional difficulty in federal aid for the education of church-related school children in secular subjects. The benefit that accrues to religion, Hutchins argues, is 'incidental to an overriding public benefit.'" Obviously, the *overriding public benefit* in this case is government control of all education.

Accountability to the government is the issue. Federal law requires that recipients of federal monies conform their activities to federal regulations.

In 1982, while working on a U.S. Department of Education technology grant to the National Education Association, I found the following admission of control over the *public* schools: "Project Design Features: What We Can Control or Manipulate."

With vouchers, the government will exert even *more* control and manipulation over *private* schools than it does over *public* schools.

The Paris newspaper, *LeFigaro*, commented in 1983 regarding France's acceptance of state funding of its private schools and subsequent state control: "The propositions of Education Minister Alain Savery on the future of private education are equivalent to a sentence of death."

The dumbing down of public education was deliberate, in order to get the private sector unwittingly to call for and accept phony "controlled" school choice proposals necessary for the implementation of the Carnegie Corporation's 1934 plan to change our economic system from free market to collectivist, as spelled out in 1934 in its little book, "Conclusions and Recommendations for the Social Studies."

This plan was also facilitated by the carrying out of the education agreements signed by Carnegie and President Regan with the Soviet Union in 1985. The Soviet polytech system is being implemented right now in the United States with students tracked into specific training at an early age and later into job slots (Soviet quota system) to suit the needs of the corporate fascist global economy.

"Obviously, the overriding public benefit in this case is government control of all education."

And conservatives believe the teacher unions do not support choice? The late Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, said: "It may be that we can't get the big changes we need without choice." The NEA's "1975 Cardinal Principles of Education" published in the September 1976 issue of the NEA journal, *Today's Education*. Public school teachers are the pawns in this game, unaware in most cases of what is taking place behind the scenes.

Isn't it interesting that Chester Finn, a major change agent involved in federal education since the late sixties (he wrote *America 2000* for President George Bush Sr.), was once opposed to school choice but is now a

strong supporter of the voucher proposal? Finn said in "Public Support for Private Education" (*American Education*, May 1982), "Short of scattering money in the streets or handing it out to everyone who wants some, the funding agency must define eligible recipients... This means in a word, 'regulation,' the inevitable concomitant of public financial support."

Finn also serves on the Governing Board for the National Assessment for Educational Progress mandated for all schools by President Bush. The NAEP is a form of test which measures accountability to politically-correct government viewpoints and workforce behaviors. The NAEP will determine compliance with accountability standards and therefore will control who receives vouchers. That is the reason vouchers will eliminate private education as it is presently constituted.

"Whether our new government form will be corporate fascism, socialism or communism... remains to be seen."

The voucher decision finalizes the exchange of our highly successful free market system and republican form of government for a failed "ism" form of government. Whether our new government form will be corporate fascism, socialism or communism (all of which differ only in minor ways) remains to be seen.

Karl Marx called for a combination of education with industrial production." And the global economic system/government being implemented today in the United States does exactly that and is what Lenin called for: International socialism.

Note: Contributions to this article from Barbara M. Morris, "Tuition Tax Credits...A Responsible Appraisal," 1983; Billy Lyon, "Connections and Conflicts of Interest (Or, There Ought to Be an Investigation!)" 1992; and Ann Herzer, public school teacher and reading expert.

—*The Times Record* • Fri., July 19, 2002 • *Commentary* (p.23):

CHARLOTTE THOMPSON ISERBYT, former senior policy advisor, U.S. Department of Education, and author of "the deliberated dumbing down of america...A Chronological Paper Trail," 1999; 3rd printing, 2001.

ON THE NET:

www.deliberatedumbingdown.com