

Embracing Your Freedom To Teach

Leilani Melendez
Leilani@Livingwitheve.com
www.livingwitheve.com
YouTube: Living with Eve

GOAL

I want you to understand the freedoms that you have when homeschooling and how to embrace them!

To do this, I will share some important points on the history of public school education in America, the homeschooling freedom we have, deschooling, and some practical steps you can take in order to homeschool without fear.

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore, God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

ROMANS 1:20-25 (NASB)

I. The Brief History of Public School In America (Key Points)

1. Early Schooling

Schooling looked very different through the ages and still today many of these people and cultures are respected.

2. Before Public School in America

Before public school was mandated, schooling took on many forms in early America.

Examples include:

- Church-supported schools
- Local schools organized by towns or groups of parents
- Tuition schools organized by schoolmasters.
- Charity schools
- Boarding Schools
- Dame Schools run by women in their homes
- Private Tutoring
- Work apprenticeships
- Homeschooling

The Puritans

- Brought their ideas of *universal education* to the New Land.
- Purpose: All children learned how to read in order to read the Bible. Morality and ethics were essential to their education.
- Therefore, they could be well educated so others (the government) could not take advantage of them.
- In order to vote, one had to read.

The Puritans were a Godly society that strove to maintain quality education. Focused on *biblical teaching, critical thinking* and *defending their faith*.

3. The Prussian Model of Education

- Key Figure: Johan Fichte (a Prussian philosopher) believed that a strong national educational system would raise Prussians up after a humiliating defeat by the French (Napoleonic Wars).
- This free and universal Prussian model gave the students a strong sense of nationalism. Students were trained to be obedient, subordinate, and agreeable.
- This model and philosophy were used in the Third Reich to build up the Nazi Party.
- The Prussian model saw children as human resources.
- By using this model, Horace Mann knew he could have people trained to run factories and work within the coal, steam, and oil industries successfully.

Horace Mann

- The father of American public schools.
- He brought over the Prussian model of education and helped establish the first Board of Education in Massachusetts.
- This board made schooling mandatory.
- Students would be good workers during the Industrial Revolution (Coal, steams, and oil industries).

Goals:
"Equalize the condition of man"
Eliminate Poverty
Reshape Human Nature & Society

4. Pragmatism: A Practical Definition of Truth (If it works, it is true, or truth is determined by consequences)

- A Western Philosophy that began during the Industrial Revolution.
- Also known as "*experimentalism*" or "*instrumentalism*."
- An action is made right or wrong based on the results.
- Knowledge is rooted in experience.
- There is no such thing as absolute truth.
- There is no truth without reality.
- Man's experiences change and so does reality.

Pragmatism In the classroom:

- Values are determined through experimentation.
- The older generation cannot impose their moral values on the younger generation.
- Child learns through doing: interacting with what they are learning, and with others.
- Project-based learning

John Dewey was a pragmatist who brought progressive education into the schools, hated classical education, got rid of all religion, and introduced evolution and humanistic ideas into the schools.

Signer of the *Humanist Manifesto* which taught a "new" religion.

Quotes From the *Humanist Manifesto*:

"The time has come for widespread recognition of the radical changes in religious beliefs throughout the modern world."

"Today man's larger understanding of the universe, his scientific achievements, and deeper appreciation of brotherhood have created a situation which requires a new statement of the means and purposes of religion."

In 1902, John D. Rockefeller **created the General Education Board** (GEB) at the ultimate cost of \$129 million. The GEB provided major funding for schools across the nation and was very influential in shaping the current school system.

Rockefeller funded the **Carnegie Foundation for Advancement of Teaching** which was able to direct the public schools nationally and, eventually, influence the world.

It promotes the use of improvement science as an approach to the research to support system reform.

Frederick Taylor Gates, an advisor to Rockefeller said: "We shall not try to make these people or any of their children into philosophers or men of learning or of science. We are not to raise up among them authors, orators, poets, or men of letters."

Supreme Court Rulings

Engel v Vitale (1962) - Prohibited school-sponsored prayer in the classrooms

Abington School District v Schempp, et al (1963) - Prohibited the reading of Bible verses in the classrooms

Lemon vs Kurtzman (1971) - Government laws and actions must have a "secular purpose" and must avoid "excessive entanglement" with religion.

Lee v Weisman (1992) - School-sponsored prayer at school activities (e.g., graduation) prohibited.

Santa Fe Independent School District vs Doe (2000) - Student-led prayer prohibited at school activities.

Kennedy v Bremerton School District (2022) - Government schools may not suppress an individual praying at a school event (effectively overturned the 1971 Lemon decision)

Carson v Makin (2022) - School voucher programs can't exclude religious schools.

Paulo Freire Critical Pedagogy

- Brazilian philosopher and educator that promoted a social philosophy focused on society and culture as an attempt to reveal, critique, and challenge power structures.
- Critical Race Theory (oppressed and oppressor).
- Teaches children to be social justice advocates and warriors.

"Without a sense of identity, there can be no real struggle."

— Paulo Freire, Pedagogy of the Oppressed



"There is no god and there is no soul. Hence, there is no need for the props of traditional religion. With dogma and creed excluded, then immutable truth is dead and buried. There is no room for fixed and natural law or permanent moral absolutes."
~John Dewey



Overall Observation

This is example of what happens when man relies on man for help. It is an example of us trying to fix all our problems, which stem from racism, poverty, immigration, effects of the war - with man- created programs that put the value of man first.

"Edgy"

Instead of turning to scriptures to find answers.

Many of these influencers, politicians, philosophers were not God-fearing men, and that's a prblem. When we continue to put God aside and, instead, play God, we end up destroying ourselves and really taking away our own freedom.

Homeschooling

Freedoms That We Have:

1. We get to teach our kids whatever we want to teach them
2. We can pick out their curriculum if we choose to use one
3. We have the freedom to teach religion and faith
4. We decide when to school them and for how long
5. We don't have to teach in a classroom
6. We can create co-ops
7. Grade levels are not assigned
8. Testing is NOT mandatory

We are the only ones holding ourselves back.

It's the intimidation, control, brainwashing, and the school system we grew up in that causes us to keep going back to habits we don't agree with.

Remember: They are not watching every move you make and every choice you decide. They are trusting in the indoctrination they placed on you as a child to keep these philosophies and methodologies in your home and while you raise your children. And it really has worked on many of us.

Example:

1. The over-importance of test scores.
2. Meeting certain benchmarks to be considered intelligent and "on track."
3. Focus on academics rather than how to treat others.
4. Lack of religious studies within each subject.
5. The academic successes of our children determines our (and our kids') self-worth. (I know many corrupt individuals with a doctorate degree and I know many honest and intelligent people with only GEDs).
6. The importance of certain milestones (i.e., graduation).

What is Deschooling?

It involves children gradually transitioning away from their school day routine and institutional mentality, redeveloping the ability to learn via self-determination, and discovering what they want to learn in their first homeschool days.

According to: "[What is Deschooling?](#)". *Observatory of Educational Innovation*. Retrieved 2020-11-29.

Who should Deschool and for how long?

Parents and kids;
Upon deliverance

Practical Advice to Help Keep You on Track

1. Write out your primary and secondary reasons for homeschooling.
2. How are you going to achieve them?
3. What are you and your spouse going to do to develop better parenting skills? Keep each other accountable?
4. Continue to discuss family priorities.
5. Curriculum - consider it one of their teachers
6. What subjects are you going to teach? Style you'll use?
7. Have a plan before you look at the curriculum.
8. Understand what else influences and teaches your children.

Resources

- Any book by John Taylor Gratto
- *Battle for the American Mind: Uprooting a Century of Miseducation* by Peter Hegseth and David Goodwin
- *Divided Nation* by Ken Hamm
- *Family Driven Faith* by Voddie Baucham
- *Public School Exit*: <https://www.publicschoolexit.com/>
- Village Church of Barrington: <https://www.vcbweb.org/parenting-in-a-godless-culture>
- *Whose Children Are They?* (Movie)

Homeschool Plan

Write Down Your Reasons For Homeschooling.
Put them in numerical order based on importance.



Write Out Your Main Reason Here:



How Are you going to achieve it this year?

Horizontal lines for writing the answer to the question.

