

## Education for the People?

IRVINE, CALIF., USA, February 4, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- President Obama recently announced his intentions to extend two free years of community college to students willing to "work for it." While on the surface this may have appeal to boost the economy and rehabilitate the working class, the President's campaign to stimulate the modern workforce by controlling education is nothing short of unconstitutional. The federal government does not possess the power to dictate educational spending, nor is it granted the authority to circumscribe candidacy for a continued education.



As father and daughter authors Robert & Megan Zwerling write in "Vigilance: The Price of Liberty," "Federal government involvement in education makes no sense given it is hard to prove its effectiveness. Further, it makes no sense for bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., to take our money then



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Robert & Megan Zwerling

decide how to spend it in our localities." Americans must consider this: what in the Constitution grants the national government the power to prescribe "free" college tuition to students attending a 2-year school versus those attending a 4-year institution or any school at all?

If the federal government agrees to fund such a program, how will the President's proposed budget impact taxpayers? According to the President, \$60 billion over 10 years with another \$20 billion required by the states. If you believe this then you must have believed the White House when it forecasted, as reported in the Wall Street Journal article "The

ObamaCollege Plan" on January 11, 2015, "in 2010 that its income-based repayment (i.e. student loan forgiveness) plans would cost \$1.7 billion that year and \$7.4 billion over the following decade. By 2014 the Administration's estimate had ballooned to \$7.6 billion for 2015 alone."

Permitting more government intervention in education is as unwise and it is unconstitutional. As the authors share in "Vigilance," the Education Department

"has a 2013 budget request of some \$70 billion and is staffed with some 5,000 employees. [29] But while ED's budget has increased 386 percent since 1980, student test scores have dropped. As reported by Ray Suarez in an article that aired on the PBS broadcast television show the NewsHour on September 25, 2012, the "College Board, which oversees the SAT, reports that 57 percent of seniors do not seem ready for college based on their test scores. The board also reported that reading scores have fallen to their lowest point in four decades."

In spite of the increasing money spent, the command and control central planners at the federal government have produced nothing less than dictatorship of the educational system without any betterment of it. Let tax dollars remain with localities and let parents and school boards determine how best to spend tax dollars for education. This is where it constitutionally belongs and will do the most good.

"Vigilance: The Price of Liberty" is an eye-opening look at the concept of liberty and how it is tied to the nation's prosperity. The authors fervently believe that unless Americans become vigilant, know the constitution, and demand a well-managed government, then the American dream will die with the next generation. This book guides the reader through a working knowledge of the constitution, analyzes the social and economic problems that stem from political corruption, and provides seven solutions to save America.

Published by <u>Tate Publishing</u> and Enterprises, the book is available through bookstores nationwide, from the publisher at <u>www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore</u>, or by visiting barnesandnoble.com or amazon.com.

Robert J. Zwerling is a high-tech business executive, who founded several software companies in sectors such as telecommunications and manufacturing. His travels across the globe helped him to develop a keen understanding of the unique role of America and American liberty to produce prosperity. His concern about the destruction of liberty from partisan politics and the media that take sides prompted him to find solutions in the pages of American history and the Constitution. The elder Zwerling holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from Stony Brook University, and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from CSU Los Angeles.

Megan V. Zwerling currently studies biomedical engineering at the University of South Carolina. She got interested in the nation's history when she took Advanced Placement U.S. History at Corona del Mar High School in California. The younger Zwerling's high school senior project about advances in the country's health care helped her to realize how certain regulations can hinder medical advances, and become a threat to the country's liberty and the future of her generation.

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