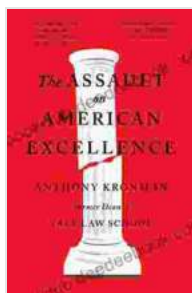


# The Assault on American Excellence: A Threat to Our Future

The United States has long been a beacon of innovation, prosperity, and global leadership. However, in recent decades, our nation's commitment to excellence has eroded, threatening our future competitiveness and well-being.

## Declining Educational Standards

One of the most glaring symptoms of this decline is the deterioration of our educational system. Standardized test scores have stagnated or declined, and the gap between high-achieving and low-achieving students continues to widen. This lack of academic rigor has a ripple effect, leading to a diminishing pool of skilled workers and a workforce that is ill-prepared for the demands of the 21st-century economy.



## The Assault on American Excellence by Anthony T. Kronman

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2007 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 253 pages

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There are several factors contributing to this educational decline. One is the misguided focus on equity over excellence. In an effort to create a more inclusive system, standards have been lowered and expectations diminished. This has resulted in a culture of mediocrity, where students are praised for effort rather than achievement.

Another factor is the proliferation of standardized testing. While tests can provide valuable diagnostic information, their excessive use has narrowed the curriculum and stifled creativity. Students are forced to memorize facts and regurgitate them on exams, leaving little time for critical thinking and problem-solving.

### **Diminished Work Ethic**

In addition to declining educational standards, the American work ethic has also been eroded. This is partly due to the rise of a culture of entitlement, where people expect rewards without putting in the necessary effort.

Another contributing factor is the decline of vocational education. In the past, students were given the opportunity to develop practical skills in trades such as plumbing, carpentry, and welding. However, these programs have been phased out of many schools, leaving students unprepared for the workforce.

The diminished work ethic has far-reaching consequences. Businesses have difficulty finding skilled workers, and productivity suffers. The economy stagnates, and the standard of living declines.

### **Weakened Competitiveness**

The assault on American excellence has weakened our nation's competitiveness in the global marketplace. Countries like China and India are investing heavily in education and workforce development, and their skilled workers are outpacing our own.

This loss of competitiveness has serious implications for our economy and our national security. As other countries become more technologically advanced, they will challenge our leadership in industries such as manufacturing, technology, and finance.

To restore our global dominance, we must recommit to excellence in all aspects of our society. This means raising educational standards, promoting a strong work ethic, and investing in workforce development.

### **A Call to Action**

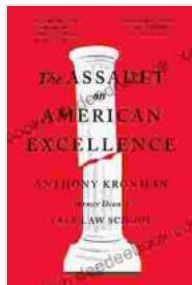
The assault on American excellence is a threat to our future prosperity and well-being. We must sound the alarm and take immediate action to reverse this dangerous trend.

This is not a task for government alone. It requires a collective effort from parents, educators, businesses, and community leaders. We must all work together to create a culture of excellence that values hard work, innovation, and achievement.

By restoring our commitment to excellence, we can ensure that the United States remains a global leader for many years to come.

The assault on American excellence is a threat to our nation's future. We must recommit to excellence in all aspects of our society, from education to

the workplace. By raising standards, promoting a strong work ethic, and investing in workforce development, we can restore our nation's global competitiveness and ensure a prosperous future for all Americans.



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