The End of Homework

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How Homework Disrupts Families, Overburdens Children, and Limits Learning

Etta Kralovec and John Buell



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Etta Kralovec and John Buell are educators who dared to challenge one of the most widely accepted practices in American schools. Their provocative argument first published in this book, featured in Time and Newsweek, in numerous women's magazines, on national radio and network television broadcasts, was the first openly to challenge the gospel of "the more homework the better."

Consider:

- * In 1901, homework was legally banned in parts of the U.S. There are no studies showing that assigning homework before junior high school improves academic achievement.
- * Increasingly, students and their parents are told that homework must take precedence over music lessons, religious education, and family and community activities. As the homework load increases (and studies show it is increasing) these family priorities are neglected.
- * Homework is a great discriminator, effectively allowing students whose families "have" to surge ahead of their classmates who may have less.
- the child Isn't

* Backpacks are literally bone-crushing, sometimes weighing as much as it obvious we're overburdening our kids?
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