



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student Learning Outcome:

- define personal values and beliefs in relation to historical and contemporary debates over the purpose of schooling and role of the teacher.

Prompt:

American schools operate within a complex world, a world replete with differing social, political, and economic values and interests that provide direction for our schools. This had led to a seemingly endless debate about the purposes of American education. To engage in a public debate about the desirability of alternative goals of schooling, your local newspaper has called for community members to voice their perspectives. The editor has requested that all letters incorporate evidence on historical debates over the role of public schooling and the role of the teacher to promote an informed, evidence-based public forum.

Instructions and Format:

Your task in this letter to the editor is to present your position in response to the following question:

What do you see as the most important purpose of schooling (or combination of purposes) in contemporary American society, and how does that compare to historic debates and perspectives over the role of public schooling and role of teachers in the U.S.? You must use course concepts when presenting your position and analyzing the debate.

You will be evaluated on your demonstration of the following (each on a 1-5 scale):

1. Your letter should identify and analyze historical and contemporary debates over the role of public schooling in American society.
2. Your letter should identify and analyze historical and contemporary debates over the role of teachers in American society.
3. Your letter should provide support with evidence from course materials and independent research. You are expected to use four sources for the assignment. At least one of the sources must be a peer-reviewed research publication and at least one should be the course text. The remaining two sources can be any additional class content, such as lecture slides, videos, class notes, group discussions, and in-class activities.
4. Your letter should communicate effectively with appropriate writing skill, style, level of abstraction, and APA citation mechanics.

Length: 1250 words, not including references.

To complete the assignment, submit three lesson plans that include all the following:

- Lesson Title
- Time Requirements
- Next Generation Sunshine State Benchmarks Covered
- Required Resources/Materials
- Objectives
- Learning Outcomes
- Assessments
- Procedures

Course: EDF 3604 Schools and Society

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