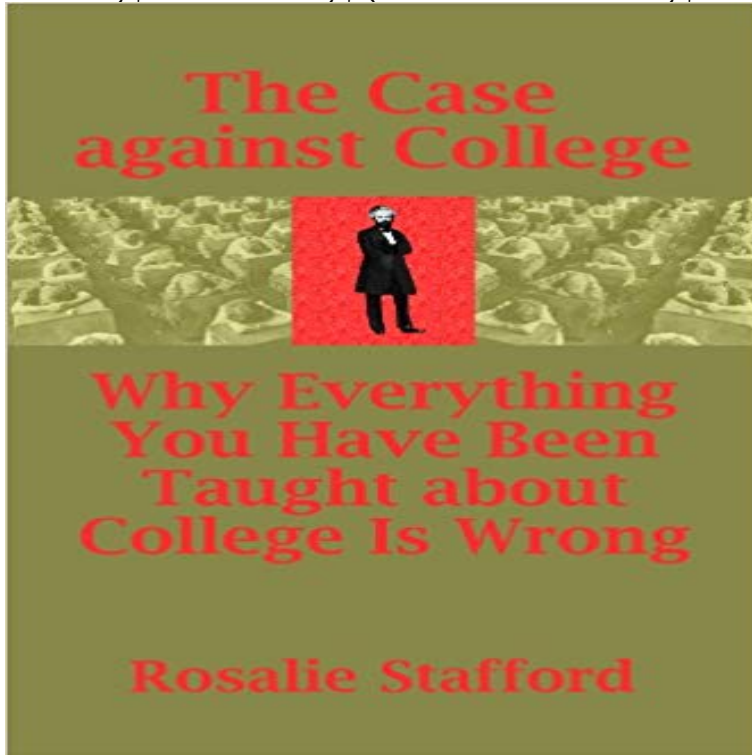


The Case against College: Why Everything You Have Been Taught about College is Wrong (Paradox of Progressivism Book 2)



FROM CHAPTER ONE You have heard the mantra when you go to college from your parents, from your elementary and middle school and high school teachers, from your middle school and high school counselors. These people most of whom you like to think wish you well and have your best interests at heart have told you countless times: You have go to college to get a good job and succeed in life. Unfortunately, these well-meaning people do not know what they are talking about. They are mentally stuck in 1970. In 1970, only one in ten Americans had a BA (a bachelors degree) and, in 1970, a sheepskin (college diploma) was the key to unlock higher earnings. Now its 2012, and the world has changed. Says one 25 year old with an Art degree and \$100,000 in student loans: Ive come to the conclusion that its an obsolete idea that a college education is like your golden ticket. Its an idea that an older generation holds on to. The fact is, for most students nowadays, a college degree obtained through the use of student loans is nothing more than a one-way ticket to debt-serfdom unless the degree is in a hot field such as Pharmacology, Geophysics (petroleum industry), or Actuarial Science (statistical analysis). Notice that the degrees which will actually cover the cost of the students loans needed to earn the degrees are heavy in science and math? Degrees in Health Sciences are also in great demand and many do not require BAs, only AAs or two-year vocational certificates. For example, dental hygienists and radiation techs need only a two-year college degree; those jobs pay over \$50,000 per year. Those degrees offer a good ROI (return on investment). Not every degree does: Sociology, Journalism, Communications, Fashion Merchandising, Interior Design, and so on, offer a very poor ROI. Instead, in virtually all cases, the student loans required to obtain those degrees create a heavy load of debt, a

one-way ticket to debt-serfdom. Your parents, your teachers, your counselors who are telling you that you have got to go to college in order to succeed financially are giving you bad advice based on outdated information and herd mentality. Lets look at some hard facts, starting with supply and demand.

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