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What has the educational system in this country come to? I strongly believe that the educational system of our time is extremely flawed. The government has stepped in to try to fix problems of certain districts not being educated as quickly, or with the same curriculum they want to be implemented. As a result, they have damaged the educational system more than they have helped it. They're trying to tell the public that everyone has to learn the same information, the same way, and in the same amount of time. That's not right. It's wrong because everyone is different, everyone learns in different ways at different speeds. The educational system should be regulated at a smaller scale, there should be smaller student to teacher ratios, less material covered, and more useful classes that are more preparatory for college. The general public in America has become so willing to change the individual rights for the promise of change and improvement on a much more grand scale. Most of these larger changes are just creating more problems though. For example, the No Child Left Behind Act. It has a noble idea behind it and was made with good intention. However, it has created a standard and goal that makes it harder for teachers to teach productive things because they have to meet the new criteria of the No Child Left Behind Act. This takes away from teaching things in the classroom that are just as important, if not more important than meeting testing requirements. The educational system should not be regulated at a federal level. Schools should be allowed to teach curriculum voted to be the best for children by the parents on a district sized level. This way children are being taught what they are most actively need to learn or what the parents in the local area want their children to learn. Doing things this way would eliminate

the majority of children learning things that aren't useful and keeping them educated according to what is most in demand or most needed in their area. Individualized curriculum for different districts would also create more freedom in choice of what people's children are learning. If someone didn't like what type of curriculum was in place in their district, all they would have to do would be to send their child to a school in a different district where they taught what the parents wanted their children to learn. Another problem in educational system is the vast number of students and the small amount of teachers. Most of the money taken from US citizens is in federal tax and goes to various frivolous things that aren't as necessary or as important as the education of the upcoming youth of today. The youth of today will be the professionals and workers of the next generation and the federal government overlooks this fact far too much. The taxes should be more geared towards states. More of the money geared towards the states should be funneled down to more important things like more teachers so that the students to teacher ratios were smaller. With more teachers per students in classrooms, there would be more individual help and attention for each student. If students were getting more individual attention, help and guidance, the success rate of students would be much higher. This would eliminate the need for government wide testing and rules such as the No Child Left Behind Act. It would also decrease the pressure and strain put on teachers. A lot of teachers don't like federal education involvement. Not because it holds them to a standard, but because a lot of teachers feel these rules hold them to the wrong standards. In china, the high school grade averages, graduation rates and success rates are so much higher than they

are here in the US. This can be attributed not only to all the useless information students here in the US are required to learn but also the volume of information required to be learnt. Students should only be required to learn information necessary to further education or necessary for survival and working. These children shouldn't be required to learn as much information, but they should be required to learn the information in a more involved way than memorization and regurgitation. A lot of the information taught in high school is useless. It's useless for furthering education and it's useless in everyday life. One has to ask themselves: is all of this information being used to teach students useless information or just to fill pages? If it isn't going to be useful or productive in furthering education or in everyday life, why is it being taught? It's because schools are regulated by people who are sitting in an office in Washington D. C. and not the teachers or parents. High school students should be learning things useful in everyday life or things that are preparing them for further education. These problems exist because the public doesn't care, the government has too much power and control, parents aren't getting involved, and neither are students. In order for things to change, someone has to care. The government keeps the public in the dark with the media and many other facets of life but things don't change soon, this country will come to its downfall and a large part of that will be attributable to the demise of this country.