

Watching debate video and answer the questions

[Sociology](#)



1. Defend your position. Why do you agree or disagree with the motion? I disagree with the motion because, in reality, not many are actually going to college because of its high costs and because, when compared to post-secondary enrolment rate in the past, less people are now going to college. Instead of saying that we have too many college students, we should say that we need more people to go to college, if they want to. If they want to work instead of going to college, they have the freedom to do so. But, I do not agree that there is such a thing as too many students going to college when everyone has the right to go to college. People should go to college because college, as a journey, and as a way of attaining a college degree, has many economic and social benefits. If there are many people going to college, it is a good thing for them and for society.

2. Describe two point that you agreed with from the debate, and why.

First, I agree that the increasing cost of education can result to what Peter Theil calls the "third bubble." Since college is now so expensive that students are going into enormous debt, it is possible that their earnings may not grow fast enough to pay for these debts. As a result, defaulting on payments can create economic difficulties for the nation. Second, I agree that college education is important because it produces a wage premium and social premium, as Henry Bienen argued. Like Bienen said, not all people are Steve Jobs and Bill Gates in talent and skills. The average citizen benefits from finishing college. College graduates tend to be more employed than high school graduates and they also tend to show better citizenship values and behaviors than high school graduates. I am not saying that high school graduates lack citizenship, but there are things we learn in college that can help us become better citizens, such as critical thinking and global

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citizenship knowledge and skills.

3. Describe two point that you disagreed with from the debate and why.

First, I do not agree that too many people are going to college in the same way that “ too many people are buying houses and too many tech companies were going public in the late 90s,” according to Thiel. This analogy is unsound because people are not objects. People go to college because they believe in its necessity to their social and economic development. If they invest in education, they know that its returns are real to them, not just in terms of money, but in terms of learning knowledge and skills that houses and tech companies cannot represent. Second, I do not agree with Charles Murray that a BA is “ fraudulent” because he claims that many college graduates hardly have basic communication skills. Just because some college graduates have poor communication skills, it does not mean that all of them suffer from deficient communication competencies. A BA can actually help those who did not do well in high school to continue developing their skills and competencies.

4. Describe one thing that you learned from the debate that you didnt previously know about the topic.

One thing that I learned from the debate that is new to me is that student debt might be so destructive that it can lead to the third bubble. I wonder how probable this is- for college debt to become the third bubble to push America to recession. I think it depends if these college graduates cannot find high-paying jobs to pay off their debts and if taxpayers cannot help reduce these debts through giving amnesties or offering lower interest payments. Still, such a scenario is troubling and shows how bad high college costs are to the nation.

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