

KERRY MCDONALD | THE UNSCHOOLING MOVEMENT AND THE MANY PITFALLS OF CONVENTIONAL EDUCATION



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1
00:00:01,300 --> 00:00:12,970

[Music]

2
00:00:18,950 --> 00:00:16,189

the planet's popping Masters Almost sure

3
00:00:21,710 --> 00:00:18,960

we have a plan that's clearly maybe

4
00:00:24,670 --> 00:00:21,720

something maybe on the realm of man

5
00:00:27,830 --> 00:00:24,680

until we've thoroughly tested every last

6
00:00:32,530 --> 00:00:27,840

closed-chested view find the more you

7
00:00:41,090 --> 00:00:37,670

where would we be without THC we know

8
00:00:45,310 --> 00:00:41,100

the lion too is just know to a degree

9
00:00:51,190 --> 00:00:45,320

where would we be without THC

10
00:01:00,610 --> 00:00:52,920

wooden company

11
00:01:03,290 --> 00:01:00,620

[Music]

12
00:01:05,509 --> 00:01:03,300

brace yourself people from Sunny San

13
00:01:08,149 --> 00:01:05,519

Diego I'm Greg Carlwood and it's pretty

14

00:01:09,890 --> 00:01:08,159

clear Society is on Shaky Ground with

15

00:01:12,350 --> 00:01:09,900

too many people living under a high

16

00:01:14,690 --> 00:01:12,360

degree of stress and irritation with

17

00:01:16,490 --> 00:01:14,700

very little Direction in their lives and

18

00:01:18,469 --> 00:01:16,500

if we reverse engineer many of our

19

00:01:20,510 --> 00:01:18,479

problems and why so many adults seem

20

00:01:22,550 --> 00:01:20,520

behind in Creative problem solving

21

00:01:25,130 --> 00:01:22,560

discernment emotional intelligence and

22

00:01:26,929 --> 00:01:25,140

independent thinking all roads lead to

23

00:01:29,450 --> 00:01:26,939

having to take a good hard look at the

24

00:01:31,130 --> 00:01:29,460

education system in this country not

25

00:01:32,810 --> 00:01:31,140

only have we been slowly slipping

26
00:01:34,490 --> 00:01:32,820
further down the list in most major

27
00:01:36,950 --> 00:01:34,500
categories for as long as I've been

28
00:01:38,990 --> 00:01:36,960
alive but our mandated school system

29
00:01:41,030 --> 00:01:39,000
seems to have been quite possibly

30
00:01:43,429 --> 00:01:41,040
crafted with ill intent from the ground

31
00:01:44,870 --> 00:01:43,439
up with investors in the system just

32
00:01:46,789 --> 00:01:44,880
looking to get more bodies on the

33
00:01:48,289 --> 00:01:46,799
assembly line as opposed to nurturing

34
00:01:50,990 --> 00:01:48,299
anyone that could actually become their

35
00:01:52,910 --> 00:01:51,000
competition emphasizing goal old star

36
00:01:54,770 --> 00:01:52,920
accumulation and pats on the head from

37
00:01:57,230 --> 00:01:54,780
authority figures over almost anything

38
00:01:59,149 --> 00:01:57,240

else breaking down the independent

39

00:02:01,190 --> 00:01:59,159

spirit of children in exchange for a

40

00:02:03,230 --> 00:02:01,200

regimented oppressive structure that is

41

00:02:05,569 --> 00:02:03,240

a closer match to prison than an optimal

42

00:02:07,490 --> 00:02:05,579

learning environment conditioning us to

43

00:02:09,410 --> 00:02:07,500

respond to bells and lockstep and

44

00:02:11,330 --> 00:02:09,420

preparing us for an adulthood where your

45

00:02:13,309 --> 00:02:11,340

work is never really done and those who

46

00:02:15,650 --> 00:02:13,319

can't conform are often labeled as slow

47

00:02:17,930 --> 00:02:15,660

from an incredibly early age or drugged

48

00:02:19,729 --> 00:02:17,940

until they feel appropriately numb and

49

00:02:21,830 --> 00:02:19,739

if this all might sound like I'm going a

50

00:02:23,809 --> 00:02:21,840

bit too far take a good look at the

51
00:02:25,250 --> 00:02:23,819
quality of food offered to our growing

52
00:02:26,990 --> 00:02:25,260
youth at some of the most important

53
00:02:28,970 --> 00:02:27,000
times in their development and tell me

54
00:02:31,610 --> 00:02:28,980
if it seems like they want optimized

55
00:02:33,350 --> 00:02:31,620
healthy robust children well lucky for

56
00:02:35,150 --> 00:02:33,360
us there are incredible people out there

57
00:02:36,830 --> 00:02:35,160
fighting for much better Alternatives

58
00:02:39,650 --> 00:02:36,840
like today's guest Carrie McDonald

59
00:02:42,290 --> 00:02:39,660
Carrie is a senior education fellow at

60
00:02:45,350 --> 00:02:42,300
the foundation of economic education and

61
00:02:47,750 --> 00:02:45,360
hosts the weekly liberated podcast she

62
00:02:49,790 --> 00:02:47,760
is also the author of unschooled raising

63
00:02:52,009 --> 00:02:49,800

curious well-educated children outside

64

00:02:54,110 --> 00:02:52,019

of the convention National classroom as

65

00:02:56,690 --> 00:02:54,120

well as being an adjunct scholar at the

66

00:02:58,729 --> 00:02:56,700

Cato Institute education policy fellow

67

00:03:01,369 --> 00:02:58,739

at State policy Network and a regular

68

00:03:03,350 --> 00:03:01,379

Forbes contributor Kerry's research

69

00:03:05,150 --> 00:03:03,360

interests include homeschooling and

70

00:03:07,130 --> 00:03:05,160

schooling Alternatives self-directed

71

00:03:10,130 --> 00:03:07,140

learning education entrepreneurship

72

00:03:12,530 --> 00:03:10,140

parent empowerment school choice and

73

00:03:14,690 --> 00:03:12,540

family and child policy she has a

74

00:03:16,790 --> 00:03:14,700

master's degree in education policy from

75

00:03:18,830 --> 00:03:16,800

Harvard University a bachelor's degree

76
00:03:20,390 --> 00:03:18,840
in economics from Bowdoin College and

77
00:03:22,729 --> 00:03:20,400
she is front and center in the very

78
00:03:24,890 --> 00:03:22,739
encouraging unschooling movement so

79
00:03:27,110 --> 00:03:24,900
let's get into it the education educator

80
00:03:29,390 --> 00:03:27,120
parents Empower and increasingly

81
00:03:31,430 --> 00:03:29,400
important unschooling Advocate Carrie

82
00:03:33,710 --> 00:03:31,440
welcome to the higher side

83
00:03:36,110 --> 00:03:33,720
hi Greg it's great to be here thanks for

84
00:03:39,649 --> 00:03:36,120
having me yeah this is a real pleasure

85
00:03:41,750 --> 00:03:39,659
your book is excellent I appreciate the

86
00:03:44,089 --> 00:03:41,760
Deep dive into the history of our

87
00:03:46,490 --> 00:03:44,099
education system the data we have

88
00:03:48,350 --> 00:03:46,500

regarding how it affects children and

89

00:03:50,089 --> 00:03:48,360

all the great Alternatives that you

90

00:03:52,550 --> 00:03:50,099

highlight and I like the term

91

00:03:54,649 --> 00:03:52,560

unschooling which you write is simply

92

00:03:56,869 --> 00:03:54,659

living and allowing your children to

93

00:03:59,330 --> 00:03:56,879

live without the Specter of conventional

94

00:04:02,270 --> 00:03:59,340

schooling and school-like thinking it is

95

00:04:04,970 --> 00:04:02,280

the act of fusing living and learning of

96

00:04:07,190 --> 00:04:04,980

seeing them as one and the same and it's

97

00:04:09,229 --> 00:04:07,200

hard to disagree with that but elaborate

98

00:04:12,229 --> 00:04:09,239

a bit for us if you could how does the

99

00:04:14,509 --> 00:04:12,239

philosophy behind unschooling compare to

100

00:04:16,670 --> 00:04:14,519

the philosophy behind conventional

101
00:04:18,890 --> 00:04:16,680
government schools

102
00:04:20,270 --> 00:04:18,900
that's a great question and I do kind of

103
00:04:22,250 --> 00:04:20,280
explore the history of the term

104
00:04:24,770 --> 00:04:22,260
unschooling as well as sort of the

105
00:04:26,990 --> 00:04:24,780
philosophical roots of unschooling or

106
00:04:29,090 --> 00:04:27,000
self-directed education I use the terms

107
00:04:31,070 --> 00:04:29,100
interchangeably throughout unschooled

108
00:04:35,150 --> 00:04:31,080
and the term unschooling was actually

109
00:04:37,490 --> 00:04:35,160
coined in 1977 by John Holt he was a

110
00:04:40,010 --> 00:04:37,500
renowned author and educator he wrote

111
00:04:42,830 --> 00:04:40,020
the best-selling books how children fail

112
00:04:45,590 --> 00:04:42,840
and how children learn in the 1960s and

113
00:04:47,749 --> 00:04:45,600

he became a real leading advocate for

114

00:04:50,749 --> 00:04:47,759

homeschooling and for parents opting out

115

00:04:53,030 --> 00:04:50,759

of government schools to educate their

116

00:04:55,189 --> 00:04:53,040

own children using the resources of

117

00:04:57,290 --> 00:04:55,199

their communities and really pushing for

118

00:04:59,390 --> 00:04:57,300

the self-directed approach to allow

119

00:05:01,790 --> 00:04:59,400

children's interests and passions to

120

00:05:04,249 --> 00:05:01,800

drive their learning instead of just

121

00:05:06,830 --> 00:05:04,259

sort of replicating school at home so he

122

00:05:08,810 --> 00:05:06,840

really pushed for what we would think of

123

00:05:10,969 --> 00:05:08,820

as more of this unstructured approach to

124

00:05:12,890 --> 00:05:10,979

homeschooling and not just changing the

125

00:05:15,050 --> 00:05:12,900

location of school to home but

126

00:05:17,629 --> 00:05:15,060

essentially importing all of those same

127

00:05:19,310 --> 00:05:17,639

characteristics of school with top-down

128

00:05:21,650 --> 00:05:19,320

expectations and curriculum and

129

00:05:23,870 --> 00:05:21,660

evaluation that we might see in sort of

130

00:05:26,270 --> 00:05:23,880

standard homeschooling environments and

131

00:05:28,490 --> 00:05:26,280

so really you know unschooling and

132

00:05:29,990 --> 00:05:28,500

self-directed education are truly the

133

00:05:31,670 --> 00:05:30,000

opposite of what we would consider

134

00:05:34,070 --> 00:05:31,680

standard schooling

135

00:05:36,409 --> 00:05:34,080

it's a much more bottom-up approach much

136

00:05:38,930 --> 00:05:36,419

more decentralized really again focused

137

00:05:41,390 --> 00:05:38,940

on an individual child's interests and

138

00:05:43,430 --> 00:05:41,400

passions and having that guide learning

139

00:05:45,170 --> 00:05:43,440

and the sort of fundamental premise as

140

00:05:48,290 --> 00:05:45,180

I'm sure you can appreciate as the

141

00:05:50,510 --> 00:05:48,300

father of a a young child a toddler at

142

00:05:53,570 --> 00:05:50,520

this point I mean young children are

143

00:05:55,550 --> 00:05:53,580

naturally curious and creative and

144

00:05:58,070 --> 00:05:55,560

especially I'm sure you'll see over the

145

00:05:59,689 --> 00:05:58,080

coming months and years you know they

146

00:06:01,850 --> 00:05:59,699

young children are incredibly

147

00:06:03,710 --> 00:06:01,860

inquisitive they're always asking why

148

00:06:05,810 --> 00:06:03,720

they're always eager to explore the

149

00:06:08,029 --> 00:06:05,820

world around them and figure out what

150

00:06:09,650 --> 00:06:08,039

things work and how things work and why

151

00:06:12,770 --> 00:06:09,660

they work that way

152

00:06:15,469 --> 00:06:12,780

and the sort of idea with unschooling is

153

00:06:18,050 --> 00:06:15,479

that those natural drives for learning

154

00:06:20,570 --> 00:06:18,060

can continue should continue will

155

00:06:22,270 --> 00:06:20,580

continue if we allow children to

156

00:06:25,189 --> 00:06:22,280

continue to learn in that really

157

00:06:26,809 --> 00:06:25,199

exploratory way that they are given the

158

00:06:29,090 --> 00:06:26,819

chance to do when they're young by

159

00:06:31,309 --> 00:06:29,100

simply not placing them into this kind

160

00:06:34,249 --> 00:06:31,319

of traditional schooling structure

161

00:06:36,050 --> 00:06:34,259

and the person who wrote the forward to

162

00:06:38,930 --> 00:06:36,060

my unschooled book is Boston College

163

00:06:41,330 --> 00:06:38,940

psychology Professor Peter gray who also

164

00:06:43,430 --> 00:06:41,340

wrote the book free to learn and he's a

165

00:06:46,430 --> 00:06:43,440

real advocate for unschooling and

166

00:06:48,350 --> 00:06:46,440

self-directed education and a Critic of

167

00:06:50,809 --> 00:06:48,360

forced schooling and compulsory

168

00:06:52,309 --> 00:06:50,819

schooling and he will say too that you

169

00:06:53,930 --> 00:06:52,319

know sort of these natural drives for

170

00:06:56,689 --> 00:06:53,940

Learning and Discovery don't turn

171

00:06:58,129 --> 00:06:56,699

themselves off when a child turns five

172

00:07:00,590 --> 00:06:58,139

or six years old and heads to

173

00:07:02,629 --> 00:07:00,600

kindergarten we turn them off with our

174

00:07:05,090 --> 00:07:02,639

coercive system of schooling to

175

00:07:06,170 --> 00:07:05,100

paraphrase his insights there and so I

176

00:07:08,749 --> 00:07:06,180

think that's just the sort of the

177

00:07:10,790 --> 00:07:08,759

general idea is let's just allow that

178

00:07:12,469 --> 00:07:10,800

creativity and curiosity in those

179

00:07:15,050 --> 00:07:12,479

natural drives for learning to continue

180

00:07:18,469 --> 00:07:15,060

throughout childhood and Adolescence

181

00:07:20,629 --> 00:07:18,479

yes that is a great setup and you made a

182

00:07:23,270 --> 00:07:20,639

good point there about kids in their

183

00:07:24,710 --> 00:07:23,280

youth before they reach the school age

184

00:07:27,409 --> 00:07:24,720

and that's something I was going to

185

00:07:29,510 --> 00:07:27,419

bring up that is in the book a lot you

186

00:07:32,089 --> 00:07:29,520

talk about the way we tend to think

187

00:07:33,890 --> 00:07:32,099

about kids at around the age of five or

188

00:07:36,350 --> 00:07:33,900

so when they start school we allow them

189

00:07:38,809 --> 00:07:36,360

to kind of grow and learn naturally for

190

00:07:42,529 --> 00:07:38,819

the first five years and then it's going

191

00:07:44,450 --> 00:07:42,539

to kindergarten and much like maybe the

192

00:07:45,770 --> 00:07:44,460

puberty stage of Life we've talked

193

00:07:47,629 --> 00:07:45,780

ourselves into thinking that there's

194

00:07:50,330 --> 00:07:47,639

this other stage of life around five

195

00:07:53,210 --> 00:07:50,340

where play time is over kids need to

196

00:07:55,370 --> 00:07:53,220

knuckle down and that declining

197

00:07:58,010 --> 00:07:55,380

childhood creativity is just a natural

198

00:08:00,710 --> 00:07:58,020

consequence of growing up but with

199

00:08:02,210 --> 00:08:00,720

unschooled kids we see something totally

200

00:08:04,370 --> 00:08:02,220

different right

201
00:08:06,230 --> 00:08:04,380
yeah so a couple of things there first I

202
00:08:08,749 --> 00:08:06,240
would say that really just even in the

203
00:08:11,570 --> 00:08:08,759
past generation we've seen schooling

204
00:08:13,790 --> 00:08:11,580
take over much more of children's lives

205
00:08:14,570 --> 00:08:13,800
and Adolescent lives than ever before we

206
00:08:17,150 --> 00:08:14,580
have

207
00:08:19,249 --> 00:08:17,160
schooling starting at much younger ages

208
00:08:22,550 --> 00:08:19,259
many children sort of in daycare

209
00:08:24,650 --> 00:08:22,560
preschool now we have Universal you know

210
00:08:28,249 --> 00:08:24,660
government preschool in some areas and

211
00:08:30,469 --> 00:08:28,259
Pre-K programs so that that standard

212
00:08:32,930 --> 00:08:30,479
schooling structure begins in some

213
00:08:35,690 --> 00:08:32,940

places much earlier than age five or six

214

00:08:37,010 --> 00:08:35,700

and extends much later into adolescence

215

00:08:39,769 --> 00:08:37,020

you know it was the case certainly when

216

00:08:42,110 --> 00:08:39,779

I was a teenager that you know teens in

217

00:08:43,730 --> 00:08:42,120

the afternoon had after-school jobs or

218

00:08:47,090 --> 00:08:43,740

would work on weekends and would have

219

00:08:49,670 --> 00:08:47,100

summer jobs and today not only is teen

220

00:08:52,550 --> 00:08:49,680

labor force participation down to sort

221

00:08:54,889 --> 00:08:52,560

of record lows but you also see that in

222

00:08:56,449 --> 00:08:54,899

place of the kind of real life work

223

00:08:59,170 --> 00:08:56,459

experience and some of these other

224

00:09:01,490 --> 00:08:59,180

experiences outside of school today's

225

00:09:03,829 --> 00:09:01,500

adolescents are you know frequently

226
00:09:05,750 --> 00:09:03,839
doing academic things they're continuing

227
00:09:07,790 --> 00:09:05,760
to do sort of school-like activities

228
00:09:11,509 --> 00:09:07,800
even in the after school and summer

229
00:09:15,530 --> 00:09:11,519
vacations and so on so forced schooling

230
00:09:17,810 --> 00:09:15,540
has really come to Define find so much

231
00:09:20,210 --> 00:09:17,820
of childhood and Adolescence and consume

232
00:09:22,130 --> 00:09:20,220
so much of young people's lives today

233
00:09:25,790 --> 00:09:22,140
much more than it was even a generation

234
00:09:28,130 --> 00:09:25,800
ago and along with that is this sort of

235
00:09:30,889 --> 00:09:28,140
push for expectations academic

236
00:09:32,990 --> 00:09:30,899
expectations down to younger ages so

237
00:09:36,110 --> 00:09:33,000
that at this point you know

238
00:09:37,670 --> 00:09:36,120

kindergartners are expected to read and

239

00:09:39,470 --> 00:09:37,680

if they're not reading by the end of

240

00:09:41,810 --> 00:09:39,480

kindergarten they're often labeled as

241

00:09:44,150 --> 00:09:41,820

reading delayed and all that's changed

242

00:09:46,130 --> 00:09:44,160

there are the expectations around

243

00:09:48,170 --> 00:09:46,140

kindergarten and early childhood

244

00:09:49,490 --> 00:09:48,180

development and learning not the

245

00:09:51,710 --> 00:09:49,500

children themselves and in fact there

246

00:09:53,509 --> 00:09:51,720

was an interesting research study done

247

00:09:57,350 --> 00:09:53,519

by researchers at the University of

248

00:09:59,750 --> 00:09:57,360

Virginia who found that in 1998 only

249

00:10:01,730 --> 00:09:59,760

about 30 percent of teachers surveyed

250

00:10:03,110 --> 00:10:01,740

kindergarten teachers surveyed said that

251
00:10:05,810 --> 00:10:03,120
children should be reading by the end of

252
00:10:07,850 --> 00:10:05,820
kindergarten and just 12 years later in

253
00:10:10,009 --> 00:10:07,860
the passage of No Child Left Behind at

254
00:10:11,870 --> 00:10:10,019
the federal level and pushed towards

255
00:10:15,530 --> 00:10:11,880
kind of standardized more standardized

256
00:10:17,810 --> 00:10:15,540
education by 2010 80 percent of teachers

257
00:10:19,490 --> 00:10:17,820
said that children should be reading by

258
00:10:21,530 --> 00:10:19,500
the end of kindergarten again all that

259
00:10:23,329 --> 00:10:21,540
had changed really was The Benchmark not

260
00:10:24,949 --> 00:10:23,339
the children and that's where we're

261
00:10:26,509 --> 00:10:24,959
seeing and we can go into this I'm sure

262
00:10:28,550 --> 00:10:26,519
in our discussion today what we're

263
00:10:31,310 --> 00:10:28,560

seeing kind of skyrocketing rates of

264

00:10:34,490 --> 00:10:31,320

children being labeled with ADHD and

265

00:10:37,009 --> 00:10:34,500

other sorts of maladies because in many

266

00:10:39,889 --> 00:10:37,019

cases they're just simply too young to

267

00:10:41,210 --> 00:10:39,899

be doing academic work that again a

268

00:10:43,090 --> 00:10:41,220

generation ago we wouldn't have even

269

00:10:46,370 --> 00:10:43,100

expected them to do

270

00:10:48,710 --> 00:10:46,380

great points and on the subject of

271

00:10:51,470 --> 00:10:48,720

benchmarks I'm actually a little curious

272

00:10:53,690 --> 00:10:51,480

because I hear a lot of maybe Hyperbole

273

00:10:56,389 --> 00:10:53,700

and then I just don't know where the

274

00:10:58,850 --> 00:10:56,399

truth really is in terms of the last

275

00:11:00,350 --> 00:10:58,860

couple years and what covet has done and

276

00:11:02,150 --> 00:11:00,360

the distance learning and all the

277

00:11:04,550 --> 00:11:02,160

policies around that and how it affected

278

00:11:06,470 --> 00:11:04,560

kids I've heard that kids are

279

00:11:08,449 --> 00:11:06,480

drastically behind traditional

280

00:11:10,850 --> 00:11:08,459

benchmarks I've heard that it's really

281

00:11:13,630 --> 00:11:10,860

not so bad I've even heard that the

282

00:11:16,550 --> 00:11:13,640

benchmarks themselves have been quietly

283

00:11:19,910 --> 00:11:16,560

changed the bar has been lowered so that

284

00:11:22,370 --> 00:11:19,920

it's easier to climb over because they

285

00:11:23,630 --> 00:11:22,380

know that there's been some setbacks

286

00:11:24,650 --> 00:11:23,640

because of this what are your thoughts

287

00:11:26,210 --> 00:11:24,660

on all that

288

00:11:28,430 --> 00:11:26,220

well I think there's a couple of

289

00:11:30,470 --> 00:11:28,440

interesting things with that that point

290

00:11:33,530 --> 00:11:30,480

and certainly all of these media

291

00:11:35,509 --> 00:11:33,540

headlines screaming about learning loss

292

00:11:37,970 --> 00:11:35,519

pandemic learning loss over the past

293

00:11:40,190 --> 00:11:37,980

couple of years of remote Zoom schooling

294

00:11:43,250 --> 00:11:40,200

through one's district and certainly

295

00:11:45,470 --> 00:11:43,260

that was sub-optimal and a disaster for

296

00:11:48,590 --> 00:11:45,480

some families with school districts

297

00:11:51,590 --> 00:11:48,600

simply not set up to perform you know

298

00:11:53,090 --> 00:11:51,600

remotely in other cases it was a way for

299

00:11:55,069 --> 00:11:53,100

families to actually see what was

300

00:11:57,170 --> 00:11:55,079

happening in their children's classrooms

301
00:11:58,670 --> 00:11:57,180
and maybe realize the curriculum wasn't

302
00:12:01,670 --> 00:11:58,680
actually that great to begin with

303
00:12:04,009 --> 00:12:01,680
whether it was in person or virtual but

304
00:12:06,050 --> 00:12:04,019
either way certainly the Focus right now

305
00:12:08,030 --> 00:12:06,060
is on this pandemic learning loss and I

306
00:12:11,750 --> 00:12:08,040
had an article not too long ago at

307
00:12:14,990 --> 00:12:11,760
fee.org where I basically said the issue

308
00:12:17,329 --> 00:12:15,000
here is not learning loss it's schooling

309
00:12:20,090 --> 00:12:17,339
it's sort of the you know we've talked

310
00:12:23,269 --> 00:12:20,100
about this for years with Summer slide

311
00:12:25,730 --> 00:12:23,279
which was the term used to describe this

312
00:12:28,730 --> 00:12:25,740
alleged learning loss from students from

313
00:12:29,990 --> 00:12:28,740

the spring semester than learning loss

314

00:12:31,670 --> 00:12:30,000

over the summer and then they come back

315

00:12:33,650 --> 00:12:31,680

in the fall and have forgotten what they

316

00:12:35,389 --> 00:12:33,660

learned in the spring and you know I

317

00:12:37,130 --> 00:12:35,399

made the point over several years

318

00:12:39,530 --> 00:12:37,140

including in the unschooled book and now

319

00:12:41,930 --> 00:12:39,540

again in terms of talking about this

320

00:12:44,930 --> 00:12:41,940

alleged covid learning loss that you

321

00:12:47,329 --> 00:12:44,940

know content that can be so easily lost

322

00:12:49,430 --> 00:12:47,339

was never really learned authentically

323

00:12:51,949 --> 00:12:49,440

to begin with you know I mean if it's so

324

00:12:54,110 --> 00:12:51,959

easy to lose all of that content was it

325

00:12:55,970 --> 00:12:54,120

ever really something that students

326

00:12:57,590 --> 00:12:55,980

really learned and had kind of

327

00:12:59,990 --> 00:12:57,600

internalized and sort of the same idea

328

00:13:02,690 --> 00:13:00,000

that you know if we graduate from high

329

00:13:05,269 --> 00:13:02,700

school let's say 18 if we can so quickly

330

00:13:07,009 --> 00:13:05,279

lose what we've supposedly learned over

331

00:13:08,690 --> 00:13:07,019

all of those years again what does it

332

00:13:10,610 --> 00:13:08,700

say about the quality of that learning

333

00:13:12,949 --> 00:13:10,620

and so that's sort of the the main point

334

00:13:15,110 --> 00:13:12,959

there that the quality of schooling and

335

00:13:17,030 --> 00:13:15,120

this kind of memorization and

336

00:13:18,769 --> 00:13:17,040

regurgitation that happens in

337

00:13:20,569 --> 00:13:18,779

conventional classrooms isn't really

338

00:13:22,850 --> 00:13:20,579

learning and sort of playing the game of

339

00:13:24,710 --> 00:13:22,860

school making sure you give the teacher

340

00:13:26,810 --> 00:13:24,720

the answer that he or she wants and that

341

00:13:29,629 --> 00:13:26,820

you regurgitate correctly on a test but

342

00:13:31,370 --> 00:13:29,639

it doesn't necessarily signal that

343

00:13:33,050 --> 00:13:31,380

you're actually learning meaningful

344

00:13:35,389 --> 00:13:33,060

content and then sort of the larger

345

00:13:38,210 --> 00:13:35,399

point is you'll much more likely

346

00:13:40,009 --> 00:13:38,220

learn content when it's tied to your

347

00:13:41,930 --> 00:13:40,019

interests and passions when it's kind of

348

00:13:43,790 --> 00:13:41,940

self-directed driven by you as an

349

00:13:45,470 --> 00:13:43,800

individual in pursuit of your own goals

350

00:13:47,629 --> 00:13:45,480

and objectives

351
00:13:49,850 --> 00:13:47,639
and I'll also say another you know sort

352
00:13:51,590 --> 00:13:49,860
of another viewpoint on that as I've

353
00:13:53,150 --> 00:13:51,600
talked to education entrepreneurs and

354
00:13:55,550 --> 00:13:53,160
microscope Founders across the country

355
00:13:57,650 --> 00:13:55,560
especially those who create these kind

356
00:13:59,990 --> 00:13:57,660
of outside of the system non-traditional

357
00:14:01,250 --> 00:14:00,000
education options like micro schools and

358
00:14:03,410 --> 00:14:01,260
learning pods and homeschool

359
00:14:07,190 --> 00:14:03,420
collaboratives and I talked to one

360
00:14:09,530 --> 00:14:07,200
microscope founder recently in Kansas

361
00:14:12,530 --> 00:14:09,540
who had worked for years in the Wichita

362
00:14:14,389 --> 00:14:12,540
Public Schools as a teacher had then

363
00:14:16,310 --> 00:14:14,399

left to create a tutoring center which

364

00:14:18,170 --> 00:14:16,320

she turned into a full-time microscope

365

00:14:20,990 --> 00:14:18,180

during the coveted response because her

366

00:14:22,550 --> 00:14:21,000

parents really wanted something formal

367

00:14:23,990 --> 00:14:22,560

and not just a kind of part-time

368

00:14:25,250 --> 00:14:24,000

tutoring program and they didn't want to

369

00:14:28,490 --> 00:14:25,260

send their kids back to the district

370

00:14:29,990 --> 00:14:28,500

schools and during her time of working

371

00:14:31,910 --> 00:14:30,000

with the tutoring center and then

372

00:14:33,650 --> 00:14:31,920

formulating the microscope and then

373

00:14:35,750 --> 00:14:33,660

looking at this supposed data on

374

00:14:38,870 --> 00:14:35,760

learning loss you know she said that

375

00:14:41,150 --> 00:14:38,880

really this just exposed kind of the low

376

00:14:44,389 --> 00:14:41,160

quality of learning that existed even

377

00:14:45,650 --> 00:14:44,399

prior to covet it just now people are

378

00:14:47,689 --> 00:14:45,660

more attuned to kind of those low

379

00:14:49,009 --> 00:14:47,699

expectations and those low performance

380

00:14:51,530 --> 00:14:49,019

benchmarks

381

00:14:54,650 --> 00:14:51,540

right on right on yeah I love hearing

382

00:14:57,290 --> 00:14:54,660

examples like that and great points it's

383

00:14:59,930 --> 00:14:57,300

not really about the coveted policies

384

00:15:01,990 --> 00:14:59,940

it's about the bad Foundation it's like

385

00:15:05,150 --> 00:15:02,000

the distance learning just through

386

00:15:08,110 --> 00:15:05,160

gasoline on an already pretty bad

387

00:15:11,990 --> 00:15:08,120

educational dumpster fire that we have

388

00:15:14,569 --> 00:15:12,000

and you also made the point that it did

389

00:15:16,610 --> 00:15:14,579

give parents an opportunity to get a

390

00:15:18,050 --> 00:15:16,620

closer look at their kids education and

391

00:15:20,030 --> 00:15:18,060

a lot of them didn't like what they were

392

00:15:22,250 --> 00:15:20,040

seeing I find it really exciting

393

00:15:25,129 --> 00:15:22,260

actually just how many different sectors

394

00:15:28,129 --> 00:15:25,139

of business during the last couple years

395

00:15:30,050 --> 00:15:28,139

saw how little control they had when it

396

00:15:31,970 --> 00:15:30,060

came to things like lockdowns and there

397

00:15:33,850 --> 00:15:31,980

are many people pivoting to make sure

398

00:15:36,230 --> 00:15:33,860

they don't fall into the same situation

399

00:15:37,910 --> 00:15:36,240

independent holistic health doctors are

400

00:15:40,370 --> 00:15:37,920

on the rise more business owners are

401
00:15:42,470 --> 00:15:40,380
looking into the private membership

402
00:15:44,810 --> 00:15:42,480
Association structure which gives them

403
00:15:46,730 --> 00:15:44,820
more freedom networking and local

404
00:15:49,430 --> 00:15:46,740
community action has never been stronger

405
00:15:51,230 --> 00:15:49,440
and in the education sector they this

406
00:15:53,930 --> 00:15:51,240
seems to be really popping off can you

407
00:15:55,970 --> 00:15:53,940
give people a sense of what this counter

408
00:15:58,129 --> 00:15:55,980
reaction really looks like across the

409
00:16:00,350 --> 00:15:58,139
country and how many new options

410
00:16:02,689 --> 00:16:00,360
families have now that they might not

411
00:16:05,329 --> 00:16:02,699
have had just three years ago

412
00:16:06,949 --> 00:16:05,339
yes that's such a great question Greg

413
00:16:09,230 --> 00:16:06,959

because I you know I think about the

414

00:16:12,170 --> 00:16:09,240

education disruption or transformation

415

00:16:13,910 --> 00:16:12,180

really over the past couple of years I

416

00:16:15,470 --> 00:16:13,920

like to put it into buckets of what I

417

00:16:18,769 --> 00:16:15,480

call the three E's so there's

418

00:16:21,350 --> 00:16:18,779

empowerment exit and Entrepreneurship

419

00:16:23,329 --> 00:16:21,360

and so you had this apparent empowerment

420

00:16:25,250 --> 00:16:23,339

certainly beginning in the spring of

421

00:16:26,750 --> 00:16:25,260

2020 where parents actually had a

422

00:16:28,129 --> 00:16:26,760

close-up look at what was happening in

423

00:16:30,530 --> 00:16:28,139

their kids schools and in their

424

00:16:32,030 --> 00:16:30,540

classrooms and then certainly throughout

425

00:16:34,910 --> 00:16:32,040

the rest of the kind of Academic Year

426

00:16:36,889 --> 00:16:34,920

2020 into 21 continue to kind of see the

427

00:16:39,230 --> 00:16:36,899

ways in which Local District Schools

428

00:16:42,050 --> 00:16:39,240

were not responsive to parents needs and

429

00:16:44,030 --> 00:16:42,060

yet private schools and parochial

430

00:16:46,310 --> 00:16:44,040

schools were much more responsive

431

00:16:47,930 --> 00:16:46,320

because of course they had bills to pay

432

00:16:50,210 --> 00:16:47,940

and they wouldn't be able to stay open

433

00:16:51,949 --> 00:16:50,220

if they didn't accommodate the families

434

00:16:54,949 --> 00:16:51,959

that were choosing them so we saw them

435

00:16:56,930 --> 00:16:54,959

much more adaptive and creative really

436

00:16:59,269 --> 00:16:56,940

in kind of getting back to normal as

437

00:17:01,430 --> 00:16:59,279

quickly and safely as possible so parent

438

00:17:03,230 --> 00:17:01,440

empowerment certainly in 2020 we also

439

00:17:05,090 --> 00:17:03,240

saw the rise then in 2020 any of what

440

00:17:07,610 --> 00:17:05,100

were called pandemic pause which were

441

00:17:11,090 --> 00:17:07,620

really these co-learning communities or

442

00:17:13,189 --> 00:17:11,100

co-ops that came together spontaneously

443

00:17:15,409 --> 00:17:13,199

families just realizing that school was

444

00:17:18,409 --> 00:17:15,419

going to stay shuttered or was going to

445

00:17:20,329 --> 00:17:18,419

continue being remote for an indefinite

446

00:17:22,069 --> 00:17:20,339

period of time and families realizing

447

00:17:23,750 --> 00:17:22,079

that they had to take matters into their

448

00:17:25,370 --> 00:17:23,760

own hands and to make sure their kids

449

00:17:28,069 --> 00:17:25,380

were getting that necessary social

450

00:17:30,230 --> 00:17:28,079

interaction and continue to learn the

451
00:17:32,210 --> 00:17:30,240
academic content that mattered to them

452
00:17:34,430 --> 00:17:32,220
and so that they ended up forming these

453
00:17:36,770 --> 00:17:34,440
you know parent-driven learning pods

454
00:17:39,770 --> 00:17:36,780
either with taking turns as parents

455
00:17:41,570 --> 00:17:39,780
leading a pod or in some cases hiring an

456
00:17:43,970 --> 00:17:41,580
adult educator to facilitate a

457
00:17:46,130 --> 00:17:43,980
curriculum and what was really exciting

458
00:17:49,430 --> 00:17:46,140
is that through that process we saw in

459
00:17:51,890 --> 00:17:49,440
2020 and 2021 a real exit from assigned

460
00:17:53,690 --> 00:17:51,900
district schools we saw the U.S

461
00:17:55,850 --> 00:17:53,700
homeschool population more than double

462
00:17:59,990 --> 00:17:55,860
according to the U.S Census Bureau in

463
00:18:02,029 --> 00:18:00,000

2020 to more than 11 of the US K-12

464

00:18:04,130 --> 00:18:02,039

school age population or more than 5

465

00:18:06,950 --> 00:18:04,140

million student events and the biggest

466

00:18:08,810 --> 00:18:06,960

driver of that exit of that growth in

467

00:18:10,789 --> 00:18:08,820

The Homeschool population were black

468

00:18:13,070 --> 00:18:10,799

homeschooling families black students

469

00:18:15,049 --> 00:18:13,080

became over-represented in The

470

00:18:17,930 --> 00:18:15,059

Homeschool population compared to the

471

00:18:20,150 --> 00:18:17,940

representation and the overall U.S K-12

472

00:18:21,770 --> 00:18:20,160

Public School population it was a

473

00:18:23,390 --> 00:18:21,780

five-fold increase that year according

474

00:18:25,310 --> 00:18:23,400

to the census of black homeschooling

475

00:18:27,590 --> 00:18:25,320

families and now even though you know

476
00:18:30,650 --> 00:18:27,600
we're more than two years into this and

477
00:18:33,590 --> 00:18:30,660
schools are back to normal we still see

478
00:18:36,110 --> 00:18:33,600
declining enrollment in many places and

479
00:18:38,690 --> 00:18:36,120
homeschooling rates still well above

480
00:18:40,730 --> 00:18:38,700
pre-pandemic levels and families really

481
00:18:42,110 --> 00:18:40,740
continuing to choose private schools

482
00:18:44,270 --> 00:18:42,120
parochial schools obviously

483
00:18:46,490 --> 00:18:44,280
homeschooling microschoools is now

484
00:18:49,190 --> 00:18:46,500
roughly 2 million students attending

485
00:18:51,110 --> 00:18:49,200
microschools full-time which are sort of

486
00:18:52,430 --> 00:18:51,120
these hybrids between what we would

487
00:18:54,470 --> 00:18:52,440
think of as private schools and

488
00:18:56,750 --> 00:18:54,480

homeschooling and Charter School

489

00:18:58,610 --> 00:18:56,760

enrollment has also gone up so even

490

00:19:00,470 --> 00:18:58,620

though now we're you know several

491

00:19:02,930 --> 00:19:00,480

academic years into this we're still

492

00:19:04,850 --> 00:19:02,940

seeing districts in many places lose

493

00:19:07,010 --> 00:19:04,860

enrollment the Boston Globe just talking

494

00:19:09,289 --> 00:19:07,020

recently about Boston Public Schools

495

00:19:11,029 --> 00:19:09,299

down again enrollment this year

496

00:19:13,310 --> 00:19:11,039

and I think it's just because parents

497

00:19:15,289 --> 00:19:13,320

really have been empowered to take

498

00:19:17,270 --> 00:19:15,299

matters into their own hands to search

499

00:19:19,310 --> 00:19:17,280

for other options to create other

500

00:19:21,350 --> 00:19:19,320

options and to collaborate with others

501
00:19:23,690 --> 00:19:21,360
to do that and you know you ask for an

502
00:19:25,130 --> 00:19:23,700
example so I can give you uh I can talk

503
00:19:27,110 --> 00:19:25,140
all day about some examples but I'll

504
00:19:28,909 --> 00:19:27,120
give you one that I think speaks to what

505
00:19:30,830 --> 00:19:28,919
you're talking about with pmas these

506
00:19:32,870 --> 00:19:30,840
private membership associations that

507
00:19:34,370 --> 00:19:32,880
have really come on the scene and I

508
00:19:36,230 --> 00:19:34,380
think been really popular and certainly

509
00:19:39,049 --> 00:19:36,240
serve an important purpose

510
00:19:40,730 --> 00:19:39,059
one example is an education entrepreneur

511
00:19:42,890 --> 00:19:40,740
who I interviewed for my podcast and

512
00:19:44,750 --> 00:19:42,900
I've written about her Jill Perez in New

513
00:19:47,630 --> 00:19:44,760

Jersey she was a long time public school

514

00:19:49,730 --> 00:19:47,640

teacher in New Jersey and when covid hit

515

00:19:51,590 --> 00:19:49,740

she ended up creating a pandemic pod

516

00:19:54,049 --> 00:19:51,600

with some other families

517

00:19:55,850 --> 00:19:54,059

didn't want to subject her kids to

518

00:19:58,190 --> 00:19:55,860

remote learning and kind of coveted

519

00:20:00,289 --> 00:19:58,200

policies in the classroom and so

520

00:20:02,510 --> 00:20:00,299

throughout the Academic Year she and

521

00:20:03,890 --> 00:20:02,520

several other families met and continued

522

00:20:05,810 --> 00:20:03,900

learning and having that social

523

00:20:08,630 --> 00:20:05,820

interaction and it became so popular

524

00:20:10,250 --> 00:20:08,640

with other members of her community that

525

00:20:13,450 --> 00:20:10,260

they urged her to do something more

526
00:20:16,130 --> 00:20:13,460
formal so last year in the fall of 2021

527
00:20:18,950 --> 00:20:16,140
she ended up leasing a building and

528
00:20:22,610 --> 00:20:18,960
opening a full full-time micro school

529
00:20:25,310 --> 00:20:22,620
with about 45 kids and she hired

530
00:20:27,409 --> 00:20:25,320
Educators Public School teachers from

531
00:20:31,010 --> 00:20:27,419
New York City Public Schools who were

532
00:20:33,350 --> 00:20:31,020
burnt out and fed up with the kinds of

533
00:20:35,630 --> 00:20:33,360
ongoing coveted policies that they were

534
00:20:36,770 --> 00:20:35,640
contending with and remote schooling and

535
00:20:38,150 --> 00:20:36,780
all the uncertainties and

536
00:20:40,850 --> 00:20:38,160
unpredictabilities that they had to

537
00:20:42,590 --> 00:20:40,860
contend with and she was able to recruit

538
00:20:44,510 --> 00:20:42,600

them into her micro school she said you

539

00:20:45,710 --> 00:20:44,520

know I can't pay them as much as they're

540

00:20:47,570 --> 00:20:45,720

making in the New York City Public

541

00:20:50,810 --> 00:20:47,580

Schools but I can offer them that

542

00:20:52,610 --> 00:20:50,820

creativity that flexibility that freedom

543

00:20:54,590 --> 00:20:52,620

that they are missing in district

544

00:20:57,049 --> 00:20:54,600

schools and this is the kind of example

545

00:20:59,150 --> 00:20:57,059

that we see certainly that I see across

546

00:21:00,669 --> 00:20:59,160

the country Jill set up her program as a

547

00:21:02,810 --> 00:21:00,679

private membership Association

548

00:21:04,370 --> 00:21:02,820

interestingly New Jersey is one of the

549

00:21:06,529 --> 00:21:04,380

easiest states in the country to

550

00:21:08,570 --> 00:21:06,539

homeschool in they have very light

551
00:21:10,850 --> 00:21:08,580
regulation of homeschooling and so it's

552
00:21:13,310 --> 00:21:10,860
easy to kind of gather families together

553
00:21:15,950 --> 00:21:13,320
in these voluntary communities to create

554
00:21:17,870 --> 00:21:15,960
these co-learning spaces and so it's

555
00:21:19,250 --> 00:21:17,880
been really successful for her and I'll

556
00:21:20,750 --> 00:21:19,260
just add one more thing it's been so

557
00:21:22,310 --> 00:21:20,760
successful that she ended up purchasing

558
00:21:23,930 --> 00:21:22,320
a building for her microscope and

559
00:21:26,750 --> 00:21:23,940
continues to expand

560
00:21:28,370 --> 00:21:26,760
hmm beautiful well examples like that

561
00:21:31,010 --> 00:21:28,380
are great and the fact that she's

562
00:21:33,049 --> 00:21:31,020
expanding is even better but you do

563
00:21:35,149 --> 00:21:33,059

bring up something I wanted to dig into

564

00:21:37,490 --> 00:21:35,159

a little more with you and that is that

565

00:21:39,950 --> 00:21:37,500

not all states are created equal when it

566

00:21:42,350 --> 00:21:39,960

comes to homeschooling freedoms or the

567

00:21:45,230 --> 00:21:42,360

lack thereof can you fill us in a bit

568

00:21:47,330 --> 00:21:45,240

more on which states are out on both the

569

00:21:49,370 --> 00:21:47,340

good and bad extremes when it comes to

570

00:21:51,590 --> 00:21:49,380

this and have there been any new laws

571

00:21:54,649 --> 00:21:51,600

passed in the wake of the last couple

572

00:21:56,570 --> 00:21:54,659

years that stick out as shining examples

573

00:21:58,549 --> 00:21:56,580

when it comes to what we want to see in

574

00:22:00,649 --> 00:21:58,559

education optionality

575

00:22:02,210 --> 00:22:00,659

yeah I mean I think there's so much to

576

00:22:04,610 --> 00:22:02,220

unpack there

577

00:22:06,649 --> 00:22:04,620

certainly there are states that are low

578

00:22:08,870 --> 00:22:06,659

regulation of homeschooling obviously

579

00:22:10,789 --> 00:22:08,880

New Jersey being one of them and then

580

00:22:12,710 --> 00:22:10,799

some states like New York that are

581

00:22:14,330 --> 00:22:12,720

you're just again right next door to New

582

00:22:16,970 --> 00:22:14,340

Jersey but are among the most difficult

583

00:22:19,130 --> 00:22:16,980

to homeschool in one of the things I've

584

00:22:21,169 --> 00:22:19,140

been spending the past year doing though

585

00:22:23,450 --> 00:22:21,179

is talking with education entrepreneurs

586

00:22:24,770 --> 00:22:23,460

these microscope Founders and creators

587

00:22:26,390 --> 00:22:24,780

of learning pods and other

588

00:22:27,950 --> 00:22:26,400

non-traditional models across the

589

00:22:30,529 --> 00:22:27,960

country about what some of their

590

00:22:32,510 --> 00:22:30,539

challenges are as they try to start

591

00:22:35,090 --> 00:22:32,520

their programs and try to scale their

592

00:22:37,789 --> 00:22:35,100

programs and it's interesting to kind of

593

00:22:39,649 --> 00:22:37,799

see where there are these hubs of

594

00:22:41,750 --> 00:22:39,659

Education entrepreneurship I think of

595

00:22:43,850 --> 00:22:41,760

for example South Florida where I spent

596

00:22:46,390 --> 00:22:43,860

a lot of time over the fall there's a

597

00:22:49,130 --> 00:22:46,400

real cluster of micro schools there

598

00:22:51,169 --> 00:22:49,140

majority minority owned majority

599

00:22:53,510 --> 00:22:51,179

minority students and those micro

600

00:22:55,549 --> 00:22:53,520

schools and they're able to access these

601
00:22:57,230 --> 00:22:55,559
micro schools through Florida's robust

602
00:22:59,630 --> 00:22:57,240
school choice programs they have tax

603
00:23:01,850 --> 00:22:59,640
credit scholarship programs that allow

604
00:23:04,610 --> 00:23:01,860
income eligible families to attend some

605
00:23:06,230 --> 00:23:04,620
of these programs which tend to be lower

606
00:23:09,230 --> 00:23:06,240
costs than traditional private options

607
00:23:11,090 --> 00:23:09,240
more generally microschoools are often a

608
00:23:12,950 --> 00:23:11,100
quarter of the cost in some cases of

609
00:23:15,529 --> 00:23:12,960
traditional private schools they're

610
00:23:17,990 --> 00:23:15,539
these intentionally small mixed stage

611
00:23:20,870 --> 00:23:18,000
one-room schoolhouse models usually

612
00:23:23,510 --> 00:23:20,880
under 50 kids and really with that

613
00:23:25,850 --> 00:23:23,520

personalized Mastery based curriculum

614

00:23:28,850 --> 00:23:25,860

and so we're seeing those clusters there

615

00:23:31,190 --> 00:23:28,860

Florida also tends to be very kind of

616

00:23:33,289 --> 00:23:31,200

open to entrepreneurship and unlike the

617

00:23:36,350 --> 00:23:33,299

rest of the country remained open during

618

00:23:37,730 --> 00:23:36,360

2020 and 2021 and kind of encouraged

619

00:23:39,950 --> 00:23:37,740

more entrepreneurship there so they're

620

00:23:41,330 --> 00:23:39,960

ahead of the pack and then I'm also

621

00:23:42,890 --> 00:23:41,340

seeing clusters of Education

622

00:23:45,470 --> 00:23:42,900

entrepreneurship in states without

623

00:23:48,289 --> 00:23:45,480

robust school choice policies I think of

624

00:23:50,149 --> 00:23:48,299

for example in Kansas there's a real

625

00:23:52,310 --> 00:23:50,159

cluster of Education entrepreneurs in

626
00:23:54,049 --> 00:23:52,320
the Wichita Kansas area another state

627
00:23:56,029 --> 00:23:54,059
that tends to be really easy to open

628
00:23:58,730 --> 00:23:56,039
businesses in and be an entrepreneur in

629
00:24:01,669 --> 00:23:58,740
and so even though there's no school

630
00:24:04,130 --> 00:24:01,679
choice policies there it tends to be a

631
00:24:05,930 --> 00:24:04,140
low regular nation state for these

632
00:24:08,090 --> 00:24:05,940
education entrepreneurs and innovators

633
00:24:10,190 --> 00:24:08,100
so they're able to try something new

634
00:24:12,169 --> 00:24:10,200
and get that off the ground but that's a

635
00:24:14,510 --> 00:24:12,179
key issue is just making it easy for

636
00:24:16,549 --> 00:24:14,520
these education entrepreneurs to start

637
00:24:19,250 --> 00:24:16,559
and scale their organizations by

638
00:24:22,190 --> 00:24:19,260

removing barriers that they may be

639

00:24:28,010 --> 00:24:24,830

yes and I had heard that Arizona just

640

00:24:30,649 --> 00:24:28,020

passed a great law for educational

641

00:24:32,450 --> 00:24:30,659

choice and West Virginia is doing some

642

00:24:34,310 --> 00:24:32,460

good things I don't hear much about

643

00:24:35,930 --> 00:24:34,320

California I know I have to leave the

644

00:24:37,730 --> 00:24:35,940

state for a lot of reasons but I do

645

00:24:40,250 --> 00:24:37,740

think that's one of them I did hear

646

00:24:42,649 --> 00:24:40,260

Through the Grapevine that at least

647

00:24:45,529 --> 00:24:42,659

locally in San Diego there's a bit of an

648

00:24:47,029 --> 00:24:45,539

issue with the unschooling movement I

649

00:24:48,950 --> 00:24:47,039

mean it's happening everywhere so there

650

00:24:51,529 --> 00:24:48,960

are groups here but

651
00:24:53,990 --> 00:24:51,539
I guess legislators or the government is

652
00:24:56,570 --> 00:24:54,000
coming in and like I mean we're required

653
00:24:58,610 --> 00:24:56,580
Nationwide for kids to go to school and

654
00:25:01,010 --> 00:24:58,620
so I guess the state can kind of decide

655
00:25:02,690 --> 00:25:01,020
what qualifies as a school and they

656
00:25:04,730 --> 00:25:02,700
don't think a bunch of kids playing in

657
00:25:06,470 --> 00:25:04,740
the park qualifies as a school there's

658
00:25:07,789 --> 00:25:06,480
some of that struggle going on here from

659
00:25:09,830 --> 00:25:07,799
what I understand

660
00:25:11,630 --> 00:25:09,840
well I think there's always a tax on

661
00:25:13,610 --> 00:25:11,640
homeschoolers and certainly

662
00:25:17,690 --> 00:25:13,620
non-traditional learning models anything

663
00:25:20,570 --> 00:25:17,700

that's outside of the norm tends to um

664

00:25:22,070 --> 00:25:20,580

maybe confuse people especially policy

665

00:25:23,930 --> 00:25:22,080

makers who like to put people into

666

00:25:25,789 --> 00:25:23,940

standard boxes and certainly don't like

667

00:25:27,649 --> 00:25:25,799

competition with district schools I will

668

00:25:29,510 --> 00:25:27,659

say though that California is another

669

00:25:31,310 --> 00:25:29,520

state where it's relatively easy to

670

00:25:33,649 --> 00:25:31,320

homeschool there's lots of homeschoolers

671

00:25:35,090 --> 00:25:33,659

there it's also relatively easy to start

672

00:25:37,010 --> 00:25:35,100

a private school so it's interesting

673

00:25:39,470 --> 00:25:37,020

that some states that we would think of

674

00:25:42,649 --> 00:25:39,480

as highly restrictive in some areas High

675

00:25:45,049 --> 00:25:42,659

regulation States for some sectors can

676
00:25:46,370 --> 00:25:45,059
be you know easier when it comes to

677
00:25:47,990 --> 00:25:46,380
non-traditional education and

678
00:25:50,870 --> 00:25:48,000
homeschooling that doesn't mean that it

679
00:25:52,610 --> 00:25:50,880
won't still entails and battles and some

680
00:25:54,529 --> 00:25:52,620
fight for liberty among homeschoolers

681
00:25:57,590 --> 00:25:54,539
and unschoolers there but tends to be

682
00:25:59,210 --> 00:25:57,600
easier interestingly in a policy paper I

683
00:26:01,190 --> 00:25:59,220
wrote for State policy Network earlier

684
00:26:02,750 --> 00:26:01,200
this fall that kind of looks at some of

685
00:26:04,490 --> 00:26:02,760
these key challenges that education

686
00:26:07,010 --> 00:26:04,500
entrepreneurs encounter across the

687
00:26:10,190 --> 00:26:07,020
country I talk about a report that came

688
00:26:12,950 --> 00:26:10,200

out in 2021 by the Cato Institute that

689

00:26:14,390 --> 00:26:12,960

ranked the states according to how

690

00:26:16,010 --> 00:26:14,400

friendly they were toward

691

00:26:18,110 --> 00:26:16,020

entrepreneurship and this was in all

692

00:26:20,450 --> 00:26:18,120

sectors not just education but all

693

00:26:23,390 --> 00:26:20,460

sectors including highly regulated

694

00:26:26,210 --> 00:26:23,400

Industries like alcohol and they found

695

00:26:28,010 --> 00:26:26,220

that in the top five states for a kind

696

00:26:29,810 --> 00:26:28,020

of entrepreneurial friendliness low

697

00:26:31,490 --> 00:26:29,820

regulation for entrepreneurs was

698

00:26:33,350 --> 00:26:31,500

Colorado

699

00:26:34,669 --> 00:26:33,360

And yet when I talk to education

700

00:26:36,230 --> 00:26:34,679

entrepreneurs

701
00:26:38,029 --> 00:26:36,240
some of them said that they wouldn't

702
00:26:40,010 --> 00:26:38,039
even think about going to Colorado as

703
00:26:41,990 --> 00:26:40,020
they scale their microscope networks and

704
00:26:43,549 --> 00:26:42,000
so on because it can be so difficult to

705
00:26:46,310 --> 00:26:43,559
be an education entrepreneur in that

706
00:26:48,529 --> 00:26:46,320
state so that shows too that even states

707
00:26:51,049 --> 00:26:48,539
that could be friendly toward

708
00:26:53,330 --> 00:26:51,059
entrepreneurs and other sectors might

709
00:26:54,470 --> 00:26:53,340
not be friendly to entrepreneurs in

710
00:26:58,130 --> 00:26:54,480
education

711
00:27:00,230 --> 00:26:58,140
and it's just state by state yeah good

712
00:27:02,750 --> 00:27:00,240
points it's a mixed bag everywhere it

713
00:27:05,390 --> 00:27:02,760

seems and to get a little more into the

714

00:27:07,789 --> 00:27:05,400

history of the American education system

715

00:27:10,190 --> 00:27:07,799

another good line in the book one of

716

00:27:12,590 --> 00:27:10,200

yours actually is that American

717

00:27:14,630 --> 00:27:12,600

schooling was designed to strip the joy

718

00:27:17,090 --> 00:27:14,640

of natural learning of following the

719

00:27:19,789 --> 00:27:17,100

human will to explore and discover in

720

00:27:22,430 --> 00:27:19,799

favor of Conformity and compliance

721

00:27:24,350 --> 00:27:22,440

I agree but talk to us about that word

722

00:27:26,390 --> 00:27:24,360

designed because a lot of people might

723

00:27:29,570 --> 00:27:26,400

think our schools have been neglected

724

00:27:32,149 --> 00:27:29,580

that they've slowly eroded in quality

725

00:27:33,649 --> 00:27:32,159

but to say they were designed to produce

726

00:27:35,269 --> 00:27:33,659

a lot of the problems they produce is

727

00:27:37,010 --> 00:27:35,279

another thing what can you tell us about

728

00:27:39,529 --> 00:27:37,020

the history of the American school

729

00:27:41,330 --> 00:27:39,539

system that shows this to be the case

730

00:27:43,490 --> 00:27:41,340

right so in the book I traced the

731

00:27:45,890 --> 00:27:43,500

history of American education and

732

00:27:49,010 --> 00:27:45,900

compulsory schooling dating back to the

733

00:27:51,649 --> 00:27:49,020

17th century so soon after the pilgrims

734

00:27:56,510 --> 00:27:51,659

arrived in what became Massachusetts Bay

735

00:27:58,490 --> 00:27:56,520

Colony in Plymouth in 1620 about two

736

00:28:01,789 --> 00:27:58,500

decades later they passed the colonies

737

00:28:04,430 --> 00:28:01,799

first compulsory education laws that

738

00:28:07,730 --> 00:28:04,440

required cities or towns of a certain

739

00:28:11,390 --> 00:28:07,740

size to provide educational resources so

740

00:28:14,390 --> 00:28:11,400

smaller towns were required to hire a

741

00:28:16,909 --> 00:28:14,400

teacher and larger towns and cities were

742

00:28:18,830 --> 00:28:16,919

required to open and operate a grammar

743

00:28:21,470 --> 00:28:18,840

school and so at that time in the in the

744

00:28:24,769 --> 00:28:21,480

17th century the compulsion with

745

00:28:27,049 --> 00:28:24,779

education rested on cities and towns the

746

00:28:30,049 --> 00:28:27,059

municipalities to provide educational

747

00:28:32,750 --> 00:28:30,059

options to families that wanted them

748

00:28:35,690 --> 00:28:32,760

and yet at the time you also throughout

749

00:28:37,909 --> 00:28:35,700

the colonial and revolutionary era had a

750

00:28:40,610 --> 00:28:37,919

whole mix of Education options you did

751
00:28:42,350 --> 00:28:40,620
have these public schools that were in

752
00:28:44,930 --> 00:28:42,360
these cities and towns required by law

753
00:28:47,269 --> 00:28:44,940
to be created but you also had a wide

754
00:28:49,490 --> 00:28:47,279
assortment of private schools and

755
00:28:51,529 --> 00:28:49,500
charity schools and church schools you

756
00:28:53,690 --> 00:28:51,539
had what were known as Dame schools

757
00:28:55,250 --> 00:28:53,700
which we would consider little in-home

758
00:28:57,289 --> 00:28:55,260
Nursery schools

759
00:28:59,210 --> 00:28:57,299
in your neighbor's kitchen who would

760
00:29:01,850 --> 00:28:59,220
teach kind of the three R's to young

761
00:29:04,190 --> 00:29:01,860
children and homeschooling was of course

762
00:29:06,350 --> 00:29:04,200
the default during the colonial and

763
00:29:07,970 --> 00:29:06,360

American revolutionary eras and

764

00:29:10,909 --> 00:29:07,980

apprenticeships were really the key

765

00:29:13,669 --> 00:29:10,919

pathway for adolescents into adulthood

766

00:29:16,909 --> 00:29:13,679

and all of that really changed beginning

767

00:29:19,789 --> 00:29:16,919

in 1852 with Massachusetts my home state

768

00:29:22,789 --> 00:29:19,799

leading the way again in compulsion with

769

00:29:27,169 --> 00:29:22,799

passing the country's first compulsory

770

00:29:29,389 --> 00:29:27,179

schooling statute 1852 now requiring all

771

00:29:31,430 --> 00:29:29,399

parents to send their children to an

772

00:29:33,889 --> 00:29:31,440

assigned District school under a legal

773

00:29:35,930 --> 00:29:33,899

threat of force and that was really a

774

00:29:37,789 --> 00:29:35,940

shift from again the compulsion being on

775

00:29:40,190 --> 00:29:37,799

the municipality to the compulsion being

776

00:29:41,990 --> 00:29:40,200

on the parents and I think that that was

777

00:29:44,810 --> 00:29:42,000

the moment where we really did see this

778

00:29:46,250 --> 00:29:44,820

shift of design to compliance and

779

00:29:48,529 --> 00:29:46,260

Conformity if we think about what was

780

00:29:51,110 --> 00:29:48,539

happening certainly in the Boston area

781

00:29:54,169 --> 00:29:51,120

in the early 19th century early to mid

782

00:29:56,149 --> 00:29:54,179

19th century there was a tremendous

783

00:29:59,810 --> 00:29:56,159

amount of immigration the city of Boston

784

00:30:01,610 --> 00:29:59,820

doubled in size between 1820 and 1840

785

00:30:04,190 --> 00:30:01,620

and most of that immigration was coming

786

00:30:07,090 --> 00:30:04,200

from Irish Catholic immigrants to Boston

787

00:30:10,010 --> 00:30:07,100

who really challenged the dominant

788

00:30:12,649 --> 00:30:10,020

Anglo-Saxon Protestant culture of the

789

00:30:13,970 --> 00:30:12,659

time and people in Massachusetts didn't

790

00:30:16,610 --> 00:30:13,980

like that you know just a couple of

791

00:30:17,870 --> 00:30:16,620

years before Massachusetts passed its

792

00:30:20,450 --> 00:30:17,880

compulsory attendance law the

793

00:30:23,330 --> 00:30:20,460

Massachusetts state legislature

794

00:30:25,850 --> 00:30:23,340

said and thou quote those pouring in

795

00:30:28,669 --> 00:30:25,860

Upon Us in masses of thousands upon

796

00:30:30,549 --> 00:30:28,679

thousands are holy of another kind in

797

00:30:33,070 --> 00:30:30,559

morals and intellect

798

00:30:35,870 --> 00:30:33,080

and this was a true you know

799

00:30:39,110 --> 00:30:35,880

anti-catholic anti-immigrant sentiment

800

00:30:40,730 --> 00:30:39,120

that was pervasive in Massachusetts and

801
00:30:42,889 --> 00:30:40,740
in the Boston area at the time and then

802
00:30:45,769 --> 00:30:42,899
that really led to

803
00:30:47,750 --> 00:30:45,779
the creation of compulsory schooling and

804
00:30:49,250 --> 00:30:47,760
the sense that all children had to

805
00:30:50,450 --> 00:30:49,260
attend these what were known as common

806
00:30:52,970 --> 00:30:50,460
schools

807
00:30:55,130 --> 00:30:52,980
the architect of that was Horace Mann

808
00:30:57,350 --> 00:30:55,140
who was instrumental in passing that

809
00:30:58,909 --> 00:30:57,360
first compulsory schooling statute based

810
00:31:00,710 --> 00:30:58,919
on the kind of Prussian model of

811
00:31:03,169 --> 00:31:00,720
learning that he was so enamored with

812
00:31:04,850 --> 00:31:03,179
and what was interesting is that even

813
00:31:09,130 --> 00:31:04,860

though these common schools at the time

814

00:31:12,529 --> 00:31:09,140

were supposedly secular they had all

815

00:31:14,870 --> 00:31:12,539

Protestant teachers and texts

816

00:31:16,130 --> 00:31:14,880

and they were you know for all intents

817

00:31:18,350 --> 00:31:16,140

and purposes what we would think of as

818

00:31:20,750 --> 00:31:18,360

Protestant trying to

819

00:31:22,549 --> 00:31:20,760

kind of mold these young children into

820

00:31:24,110 --> 00:31:22,559

the dominant culture of the times and

821

00:31:26,389 --> 00:31:24,120

and it's really interesting because a

822

00:31:27,830 --> 00:31:26,399

lot of these Catholic families rebelled

823

00:31:30,049 --> 00:31:27,840

and they started creating their own

824

00:31:31,789 --> 00:31:30,059

parallel system of parochial schools

825

00:31:33,470 --> 00:31:31,799

throughout the latter part of the 19th

826

00:31:36,590 --> 00:31:33,480

century so we're not sending our kids to

827

00:31:38,870 --> 00:31:36,600

these purportedly secular but obviously

828

00:31:40,549 --> 00:31:38,880

Protestant common schools so they

829

00:31:43,610 --> 00:31:40,559

created their own system of private

830

00:31:47,210 --> 00:31:43,620

schools and that all came to a peak in

831

00:31:49,250 --> 00:31:47,220

the 1920s when Oregon tried to ban

832

00:31:51,769 --> 00:31:49,260

attendance at any private schools they

833

00:31:54,529 --> 00:31:51,779

wanted children to only attend public

834

00:31:55,909 --> 00:31:54,539

schools and at the time in Oregon really

835

00:31:58,370 --> 00:31:55,919

the only private schools that were in

836

00:32:01,010 --> 00:31:58,380

existence were parochial schools there

837

00:32:01,970 --> 00:32:01,020

weren't independent private schools and

838

00:32:04,370 --> 00:32:01,980

thankfully

839

00:32:07,730 --> 00:32:04,380

the U.S Supreme Court shot down that

840

00:32:10,610 --> 00:32:07,740

Oregon law in the landmark Supreme Court

841

00:32:13,190 --> 00:32:10,620

case of Pierce versus the Society of

842

00:32:16,970 --> 00:32:13,200

sisters where they said that the child

843

00:32:18,310 --> 00:32:16,980

is not the mere creature of the state

844

00:32:21,649 --> 00:32:18,320

hmm

845

00:32:23,210 --> 00:32:21,659

well that is a great history lesson and

846

00:32:26,169 --> 00:32:23,220

the quote you read I feel like I could

847

00:32:30,350 --> 00:32:26,179

hear that even today in a lot of cases

848

00:32:32,090 --> 00:32:30,360

and the fights the struggles seem to be

849

00:32:35,210 --> 00:32:32,100

similar today there's a lot of talk

850

00:32:37,490 --> 00:32:35,220

about Educators sliding in their

851

00:32:39,289 --> 00:32:37,500

cultural beliefs or their political or

852

00:32:42,590 --> 00:32:39,299

religious views that really have no

853

00:32:44,510 --> 00:32:42,600

place in the classroom and it just seems

854

00:32:46,190 --> 00:32:44,520

like that's a tale as old as time but

855

00:32:49,549 --> 00:32:46,200

Horus man we have talked about him

856

00:32:52,190 --> 00:32:49,559

before and the Prussian model more of a

857

00:32:54,470 --> 00:32:52,200

militaristic regimented type of system

858

00:32:57,049 --> 00:32:54,480

obviously that is what we have if you

859

00:32:58,669 --> 00:32:57,059

just examine it but something I didn't

860

00:33:01,190 --> 00:32:58,679

know that I learned from your book is

861

00:33:03,350 --> 00:33:01,200

that Horace Mann also created the

862

00:33:06,769 --> 00:33:03,360

nation's first mental institution in

863

00:33:08,690 --> 00:33:06,779

1833 so people can make it that what

864

00:33:11,930 --> 00:33:08,700

they will if they thought that went very

865

00:33:14,930 --> 00:33:11,940

well but you make other great points

866

00:33:18,889 --> 00:33:14,940

about the myths we've been told as to

867

00:33:20,690 --> 00:33:18,899

why National compulsory education was

868

00:33:23,690 --> 00:33:20,700

developed one of those is that we were

869

00:33:25,909 --> 00:33:23,700

told that illiteracy was rampant in the

870

00:33:26,930 --> 00:33:25,919

1800s but apparently that's not all that

871

00:33:28,610 --> 00:33:26,940

true

872

00:33:30,230 --> 00:33:28,620

yeah I'll just say one other thing about

873

00:33:33,230 --> 00:33:30,240

Horace man that's really interesting is

874

00:33:36,110 --> 00:33:33,240

he homeschooled his own children while

875

00:33:38,210 --> 00:33:36,120

mandating compulsory schooling for

876

00:33:40,370 --> 00:33:38,220

others and if you read some of his

877

00:33:41,690 --> 00:33:40,380

writings he had a lot of contempt for

878

00:33:44,509 --> 00:33:41,700

parents

879

00:33:48,350 --> 00:33:44,519

you know calling them hostages to our

880

00:33:50,570 --> 00:33:48,360

cause and so forth really this disdain

881

00:33:52,370 --> 00:33:50,580

for parents and especially again these

882

00:33:55,009 --> 00:33:52,380

parents who kind of conflicted with the

883

00:33:57,409 --> 00:33:55,019

dominant cultural ethos of the time

884

00:33:59,269 --> 00:33:57,419

so right so at the time there was this

885

00:34:01,610 --> 00:33:59,279

sense that oh or at least historically

886

00:34:04,970 --> 00:34:01,620

The Narrative has been that we need a

887

00:34:07,190 --> 00:34:04,980

compulsory common schooling because of

888

00:34:09,290 --> 00:34:07,200

low literacy rates and yet if you look

889

00:34:11,329 --> 00:34:09,300

at the data it will show that we

890

00:34:14,210 --> 00:34:11,339

actually had quite High literacy rates

891

00:34:15,710 --> 00:34:14,220

in Massachusetts upwards of 90 literacy

892

00:34:19,790 --> 00:34:15,720

rates at the time that compulsory

893

00:34:22,129 --> 00:34:19,800

schooling laws were passed certainly you

894

00:34:24,530 --> 00:34:22,139

know it was illegal at the time for

895

00:34:26,990 --> 00:34:24,540

slaves to be taught to read and I talk

896

00:34:28,730 --> 00:34:27,000

in my book actually about some slave

897

00:34:31,010 --> 00:34:28,740

communities where they actually defied

898

00:34:33,169 --> 00:34:31,020

those laws with the thirst for knowledge

899

00:34:34,790 --> 00:34:33,179

and literacy was strong and so many of

900

00:34:37,550 --> 00:34:34,800

them defied those laws to teach

901
00:34:38,810 --> 00:34:37,560
themselves and others helped to educate

902
00:34:41,930 --> 00:34:38,820
slaves as well even though it was

903
00:34:44,629 --> 00:34:41,940
against the law women were obviously not

904
00:34:47,629 --> 00:34:44,639
as equitably recognized in educational

905
00:34:50,510 --> 00:34:47,639
settings as men and yet still we had

906
00:34:53,210 --> 00:34:50,520
high levels of literacy at the time

907
00:34:55,310 --> 00:34:53,220
yeah I just found some of that to be

908
00:34:57,650 --> 00:34:55,320
pretty surprising worth fitting in here

909
00:35:00,470 --> 00:34:57,660
and I'm not sure what the literacy rate

910
00:35:02,770 --> 00:35:00,480
is today but I definitely thought people

911
00:35:05,690 --> 00:35:02,780
were much more illiterate in the past

912
00:35:06,829 --> 00:35:05,700
yeah I mean it's hard to know I guess it

913
00:35:09,130 --> 00:35:06,839

would probably be a little bit

914

00:35:11,930 --> 00:35:09,140

anachronistic to kind of compare

915

00:35:14,329 --> 00:35:11,940

literacy rates then and now different

916

00:35:15,829 --> 00:35:14,339

kind of standards of literacy but

917

00:35:17,870 --> 00:35:15,839

certainly when we see some of these

918

00:35:20,089 --> 00:35:17,880

standardized test scores coming out of

919

00:35:21,829 --> 00:35:20,099

different parts of this country you know

920

00:35:23,630 --> 00:35:21,839

it's hard to say that we're actually

921

00:35:24,950 --> 00:35:23,640

quite a bit more literate even though of

922

00:35:27,050 --> 00:35:24,960

course kids are spending so much more

923

00:35:29,510 --> 00:35:27,060

time in compulsory schooling settings

924

00:35:31,069 --> 00:35:29,520

and yet not necessarily having the

925

00:35:33,670 --> 00:35:31,079

outcomes that

926

00:35:35,810 --> 00:35:33,680

education reformers would want

927

00:35:37,430 --> 00:35:35,820

yeah you're right about it being a

928

00:35:39,530 --> 00:35:37,440

little difficult to compare I think even

929

00:35:42,410 --> 00:35:39,540

the quality of literature and the

930

00:35:44,450 --> 00:35:42,420

quality the complexity even of like what

931

00:35:47,390 --> 00:35:44,460

kids might have been reading then or

932

00:35:49,010 --> 00:35:47,400

people in general then versus now it's

933

00:35:52,310 --> 00:35:49,020

quite different but while we're talking

934

00:35:54,770 --> 00:35:52,320

about reading and writing critics of the

935

00:35:57,470 --> 00:35:54,780

unschooling movement might say that

936

00:35:59,690 --> 00:35:57,480

self-directed learning is great for kids

937

00:36:01,490 --> 00:35:59,700

sure if you're interested in bugs this

938

00:36:03,410 --> 00:36:01,500

week let's learn about bugs if you want

939

00:36:05,690 --> 00:36:03,420

to know how concrete works next week

940

00:36:07,550 --> 00:36:05,700

we'll do that but eventually we have to

941

00:36:10,910 --> 00:36:07,560

learn to read and write eventually we

942

00:36:13,370 --> 00:36:10,920

have to learn things kids might not want

943

00:36:16,130 --> 00:36:13,380

to sit down and learn what would you say

944

00:36:18,829 --> 00:36:16,140

to that and just the the idea of

945

00:36:20,390 --> 00:36:18,839

contrasting teaching reading versus

946

00:36:21,950 --> 00:36:20,400

learning reading

947

00:36:25,010 --> 00:36:21,960

yeah I mean I guess a couple of things

948

00:36:26,510 --> 00:36:25,020

there you know one is just this

949

00:36:28,190 --> 00:36:26,520

sense within unschooling and

950

00:36:30,650 --> 00:36:28,200

self-directed educational philosophy

951
00:36:32,390 --> 00:36:30,660
that if you allow individuals to pursue

952
00:36:34,490 --> 00:36:32,400
their own passions and interests they'll

953
00:36:37,490 --> 00:36:34,500
learn through that process so if a child

954
00:36:40,370 --> 00:36:37,500
is interested in bugs like you said

955
00:36:42,050 --> 00:36:40,380
they'll want to you know read about bugs

956
00:36:44,150 --> 00:36:42,060
and learn about bugs

957
00:36:46,849 --> 00:36:44,160
and discover more that way so it's an

958
00:36:48,829 --> 00:36:46,859
entry point into learning reading and

959
00:36:50,870 --> 00:36:48,839
writing and arithmetic through their

960
00:36:53,390 --> 00:36:50,880
interests but it's all driven by them

961
00:36:55,010 --> 00:36:53,400
with their ability to opt out at any

962
00:36:56,930 --> 00:36:55,020
time and kind of move on to another

963
00:36:58,849 --> 00:36:56,940

interest so it's these kind of bottom-up

964

00:37:00,589 --> 00:36:58,859

educational approach instead of a

965

00:37:02,390 --> 00:37:00,599

top-down approach of saying this is what

966

00:37:04,130 --> 00:37:02,400

you're going to learn in this way at

967

00:37:06,470 --> 00:37:04,140

this time with this specific assessment

968

00:37:08,569 --> 00:37:06,480

model and the other point that I make in

969

00:37:10,849 --> 00:37:08,579

the unschooled book is that unschooling

970

00:37:13,010 --> 00:37:10,859

doesn't mean that you're never using

971

00:37:14,990 --> 00:37:13,020

formal curriculum or you're not learning

972

00:37:17,990 --> 00:37:15,000

what we would consider a traditional way

973

00:37:20,569 --> 00:37:18,000

it just means that you're choosing that

974

00:37:23,270 --> 00:37:20,579

curriculum or that standard approach so

975

00:37:25,310 --> 00:37:23,280

you will find many students who learn in

976

00:37:26,930 --> 00:37:25,320

unschooled environments or Sudbury model

977

00:37:29,210 --> 00:37:26,940

schools which I talk about in the book

978

00:37:31,310 --> 00:37:29,220

quite extensively and other kinds of

979

00:37:33,470 --> 00:37:31,320

self-directed learning settings that you

980

00:37:35,510 --> 00:37:33,480

know as children certainly get later

981

00:37:37,790 --> 00:37:35,520

into their childhood and Adolescence

982

00:37:40,250 --> 00:37:37,800

they may have goals to attend college or

983

00:37:41,810 --> 00:37:40,260

to achieve some kind of career goal and

984

00:37:44,210 --> 00:37:41,820

then they'll start you know studying for

985

00:37:46,370 --> 00:37:44,220

the SATs or taking Community College

986

00:37:48,349 --> 00:37:46,380

classes or potentially even doing what

987

00:37:50,089 --> 00:37:48,359

we would consider a conventional High

988

00:37:52,849 --> 00:37:50,099

School curriculum but it's again all

989

00:37:54,530 --> 00:37:52,859

driven by them with their ability to

990

00:37:56,089 --> 00:37:54,540

quit with their ability to exit if

991

00:37:58,670 --> 00:37:56,099

that's not what they want and to shift

992

00:38:00,710 --> 00:37:58,680

gears and it's in some ways giving young

993

00:38:03,530 --> 00:38:00,720

people the same level of respect as

994

00:38:06,349 --> 00:38:03,540

individual people that we would want as

995

00:38:09,230 --> 00:38:06,359

adults right that if we are you know not

996

00:38:11,210 --> 00:38:09,240

happy for example in a specific job or

997

00:38:12,770 --> 00:38:11,220

specific career path that we have the

998

00:38:14,390 --> 00:38:12,780

ability to quit we have the ability to

999

00:38:15,950 --> 00:38:14,400

move on to something different and it's

1000

00:38:18,470 --> 00:38:15,960

sort of providing that same sort of

1001
00:38:19,810 --> 00:38:18,480
freedom and flexibility to young people

1002
00:38:22,089 --> 00:38:19,820
mm-hmm

1003
00:38:25,069 --> 00:38:22,099
good points and

1004
00:38:26,569 --> 00:38:25,079
the parts of the book that talk about

1005
00:38:28,430 --> 00:38:26,579
reading I just thought were really

1006
00:38:31,849 --> 00:38:28,440
interesting because you have people who

1007
00:38:36,470 --> 00:38:31,859
have studied this and their assessment

1008
00:38:38,450 --> 00:38:36,480
is that kids learn to read

1009
00:38:41,750 --> 00:38:38,460
not necessarily are taught to read it's

1010
00:38:44,030 --> 00:38:41,760
kind of weird to think about but we kind

1011
00:38:45,589 --> 00:38:44,040
of assume you send your kid to school

1012
00:38:49,190 --> 00:38:45,599
and the teacher teaches them to read

1013
00:38:51,470 --> 00:38:49,200

over time but we don't necessarily have

1014

00:38:53,510 --> 00:38:51,480

much of a comparison as to what would

1015

00:38:55,069 --> 00:38:53,520

have happened if we didn't send them to

1016

00:38:58,670 --> 00:38:55,079

school and we just introduced them to

1017

00:39:01,190 --> 00:38:58,680

stories they liked and kind of let them

1018

00:39:04,329 --> 00:39:01,200

self-direct their own reading ability

1019

00:39:08,569 --> 00:39:04,339

but experts seem to say that reading

1020

00:39:10,609 --> 00:39:08,579

isn't as as much of a a taught skill as

1021

00:39:12,530 --> 00:39:10,619

it is just a naturally learned skill

1022

00:39:14,810 --> 00:39:12,540

that we don't need to be taught to read

1023

00:39:16,670 --> 00:39:14,820

from some authority figure necessarily

1024

00:39:18,410 --> 00:39:16,680

and I don't know I just I never really

1025

00:39:20,750 --> 00:39:18,420

thought much about that but it was

1026

00:39:23,450 --> 00:39:20,760

pretty interesting well there's always

1027

00:39:24,829 --> 00:39:23,460

discussions on the reading Wars right I

1028

00:39:26,510 --> 00:39:24,839

mean we heard actually there was just a

1029

00:39:28,609 --> 00:39:26,520

renewed interest in the reading Wars

1030

00:39:31,069 --> 00:39:28,619

It's phonics versus whole language and

1031

00:39:33,829 --> 00:39:31,079

the Pendulum typically swings back and

1032

00:39:36,050 --> 00:39:33,839

forth depending on the expert consensus

1033

00:39:37,430 --> 00:39:36,060

of the day but one of the things that

1034

00:39:39,290 --> 00:39:37,440

you know I talk about in the unschool

1035

00:39:42,290 --> 00:39:39,300

book is just how children would learn to

1036

00:39:44,030 --> 00:39:42,300

read and gain natural literacy outside

1037

00:39:46,370 --> 00:39:44,040

of a standard School setting so there's

1038

00:39:48,230 --> 00:39:46,380

one kind of category of talking about

1039

00:39:50,089 --> 00:39:48,240

what's the best way to teach reading or

1040

00:39:51,710 --> 00:39:50,099

to have children be literate within a

1041

00:39:53,329 --> 00:39:51,720

standard school system and that's where

1042

00:39:56,270 --> 00:39:53,339

I think some of the debates today come

1043

00:39:59,030 --> 00:39:56,280

from a whole language versus phonics but

1044

00:40:00,770 --> 00:39:59,040

if we can remove that whole Paradigm of

1045

00:40:02,450 --> 00:40:00,780

Education from a standard setting and

1046

00:40:04,250 --> 00:40:02,460

think about how children learn outside

1047

00:40:06,050 --> 00:40:04,260

of conventional schooling it's a

1048

00:40:08,329 --> 00:40:06,060

completely different ball game and

1049

00:40:10,609 --> 00:40:08,339

that's where you know for example I talk

1050

00:40:12,589 --> 00:40:10,619

about research in the book looking at

1051
00:40:14,450 --> 00:40:12,599
young people who've learned outside of a

1052
00:40:17,510 --> 00:40:14,460
conventional School setting

1053
00:40:20,030 --> 00:40:17,520
researchers in England finding that the

1054
00:40:21,710 --> 00:40:20,040
average age of proficiency for reading

1055
00:40:23,750 --> 00:40:21,720
meaning a child could read almost

1056
00:40:25,670 --> 00:40:23,760
anything that they're given is about

1057
00:40:28,130 --> 00:40:25,680
eight and a half if we think about a

1058
00:40:30,230 --> 00:40:28,140
bell curve of reading competence it

1059
00:40:32,390 --> 00:40:30,240
would start you know kind of early maybe

1060
00:40:34,550 --> 00:40:32,400
an early reader around four years old

1061
00:40:36,230 --> 00:40:34,560
and then a late reader maybe 11 years

1062
00:40:37,730 --> 00:40:36,240
old and kind of the bell curve the

1063
00:40:39,950 --> 00:40:37,740

middle of the bell curve would be around

1064

00:40:41,990 --> 00:40:39,960

eight and a half and like I mentioned

1065

00:40:44,390 --> 00:40:42,000

earlier in our discussion Greg you know

1066

00:40:46,970 --> 00:40:44,400

today's expectations in standard

1067

00:40:50,990 --> 00:40:46,980

schooling sessions in standard schooling

1068

00:40:53,390 --> 00:40:51,000

settings for literacy really you're at

1069

00:40:55,730 --> 00:40:53,400

the far left of that bell curve really

1070

00:40:57,290 --> 00:40:55,740

expecting now four and five-year-olds to

1071

00:40:59,630 --> 00:40:57,300

be learning to read and reading

1072

00:41:01,550 --> 00:40:59,640

proficiently even though again maybe

1073

00:41:02,930 --> 00:41:01,560

it's more closer to eight and a half but

1074

00:41:05,210 --> 00:41:02,940

if you had an eight and a half year old

1075

00:41:07,370 --> 00:41:05,220

in a standard Public School setting that

1076

00:41:09,290 --> 00:41:07,380

was not reading proficiently it's very

1077

00:41:12,170 --> 00:41:09,300

likely that they would be labeled with a

1078

00:41:13,430 --> 00:41:12,180

reading delay or reading disability when

1079

00:41:16,069 --> 00:41:13,440

it could just be that they're not quite

1080

00:41:17,810 --> 00:41:16,079

ready to read yeah yeah or they're just

1081

00:41:20,390 --> 00:41:17,820

disinterested as well that's another

1082

00:41:22,010 --> 00:41:20,400

huge factor and if I can just add one

1083

00:41:23,329 --> 00:41:22,020

other point to that sure put a fine

1084

00:41:25,010 --> 00:41:23,339

point on it as

1085

00:41:26,329 --> 00:41:25,020

one of the things you hear over and over

1086

00:41:28,250 --> 00:41:26,339

and I talk about this in the book as

1087

00:41:30,349 --> 00:41:28,260

well is that those quote unquote later

1088

00:41:33,470 --> 00:41:30,359

readers those children that read maybe

1089

00:41:35,750 --> 00:41:33,480

at eight or later tend to become very

1090

00:41:37,849 --> 00:41:35,760

proficient readers very quickly so they

1091

00:41:41,150 --> 00:41:37,859

may not be reading at all or very little

1092

00:41:42,950 --> 00:41:41,160

and then once they hit that kind of peak

1093

00:41:45,470 --> 00:41:42,960

point of proficiency they're reading

1094

00:41:47,690 --> 00:41:45,480

Harry Potter within a couple of weeks

1095

00:41:49,069 --> 00:41:47,700

and that's an interesting anecdote that

1096

00:41:52,190 --> 00:41:49,079

I heard over and over and that's also

1097

00:41:54,470 --> 00:41:52,200

captured in in some of these data yeah

1098

00:41:56,270 --> 00:41:54,480

yeah great points there's examples in

1099

00:41:58,670 --> 00:41:56,280

the book where kids who are late readers

1100

00:42:01,010 --> 00:41:58,680

end up reading way more complex stuff

1101
00:42:02,569 --> 00:42:01,020
way sooner because once they decide

1102
00:42:05,450 --> 00:42:02,579
they're interested in it it kind of

1103
00:42:07,490 --> 00:42:05,460
takes off and I have developed an

1104
00:42:09,410 --> 00:42:07,500
interest in the work of Rudolph Steiner

1105
00:42:12,650 --> 00:42:09,420
to a degree and some of the stuff he

1106
00:42:14,510 --> 00:42:12,660
says about education just I really like

1107
00:42:17,030 --> 00:42:14,520
things I don't expect to hear and he's

1108
00:42:19,190 --> 00:42:17,040
has some really off the wall ideas and

1109
00:42:20,990 --> 00:42:19,200
one of them is around reading like he

1110
00:42:23,569 --> 00:42:21,000
didn't think kids needed to learn to

1111
00:42:26,150 --> 00:42:23,579
read until way later that the structure

1112
00:42:30,109 --> 00:42:26,160
of language and reading actually

1113
00:42:31,730 --> 00:42:30,119

hindered their creative spirits and I've

1114

00:42:33,050 --> 00:42:31,740

thought about Waldorf schools as an

1115

00:42:35,329 --> 00:42:33,060

alternative and then when I hear about

1116

00:42:37,069 --> 00:42:35,339

that I'm like I don't know there's also

1117

00:42:38,870 --> 00:42:37,079

a couple other things I don't love like

1118

00:42:40,490 --> 00:42:38,880

having to sign a document that says

1119

00:42:42,589 --> 00:42:40,500

there'll be no technology in the house

1120

00:42:43,970 --> 00:42:42,599

it's like okay you know I'm not Amish

1121

00:42:46,250 --> 00:42:43,980

we're gonna have a little technology

1122

00:42:48,349 --> 00:42:46,260

around that doesn't mean I want iPads in

1123

00:42:50,890 --> 00:42:48,359

the classroom but you know it is what it

1124

00:42:54,650 --> 00:42:50,900

is there's a lot of these Alternatives

1125

00:42:56,990 --> 00:42:54,660

Montessori Waldorf you find and in the

1126

00:42:59,450 --> 00:42:57,000

book you talk about this they're

1127

00:43:01,910 --> 00:42:59,460

different but not necessarily different

1128

00:43:04,670 --> 00:43:01,920

enough they're still built on similar

1129

00:43:08,030 --> 00:43:04,680

scaffolding and a similar Foundation to

1130

00:43:10,730 --> 00:43:08,040

traditional schools and unschooling is

1131

00:43:14,270 --> 00:43:10,740

really a much Bolder and much more

1132

00:43:16,250 --> 00:43:14,280

different situation maybe you could talk

1133

00:43:18,109 --> 00:43:16,260

to us about that through a couple of

1134

00:43:20,390 --> 00:43:18,119

stories about your own kids because I've

1135

00:43:23,690 --> 00:43:20,400

heard you tell stories about how this

1136

00:43:26,210 --> 00:43:23,700

has worked and that really uh sounded

1137

00:43:28,130 --> 00:43:26,220

like it's working pretty well for you

1138

00:43:29,809 --> 00:43:28,140

yeah I mean I think it's interesting so

1139

00:43:31,910 --> 00:43:29,819

we have these Alternative Learning

1140

00:43:33,829 --> 00:43:31,920

models that are very child-centered

1141

00:43:35,690 --> 00:43:33,839

Montessori and Waldorf being two

1142

00:43:37,730 --> 00:43:35,700

examples you're right that in many

1143

00:43:39,890 --> 00:43:37,740

Waldorf schools they don't even begin to

1144

00:43:41,630 --> 00:43:39,900

teach reading until much later than

1145

00:43:43,510 --> 00:43:41,640

children would learn to read in

1146

00:43:46,670 --> 00:43:43,520

traditional schools because they do

1147

00:43:48,589 --> 00:43:46,680

recognize that bell curve of reading

1148

00:43:50,510 --> 00:43:48,599

confidence and do kind of push it more

1149

00:43:51,410 --> 00:43:50,520

towards the center of the bell curve

1150

00:43:53,089 --> 00:43:51,420

there

1151

00:43:54,170 --> 00:43:53,099

so that's interesting and they're just

1152

00:43:55,670 --> 00:43:54,180

they're beautiful educational

1153

00:43:58,430 --> 00:43:55,680

philosophies you know one of the things

1154

00:44:00,410 --> 00:43:58,440

I often say is that my preferred

1155

00:44:02,390 --> 00:44:00,420

educational philosophy and approach is

1156

00:44:05,510 --> 00:44:02,400

self-directed education and unschooling

1157

00:44:07,910 --> 00:44:05,520

but my larger priority is to expand the

1158

00:44:10,510 --> 00:44:07,920

amount and diversity of Education

1159

00:44:13,910 --> 00:44:10,520

options that families are able to access

1160

00:44:15,589 --> 00:44:13,920

you know I have my preference but other

1161

00:44:17,990 --> 00:44:15,599

families might find that something else

1162

00:44:19,670 --> 00:44:18,000

is a better match for their child's

1163

00:44:21,890 --> 00:44:19,680

individual needs and interests or their

1164

00:44:23,510 --> 00:44:21,900

families you know vision and values and

1165

00:44:24,890 --> 00:44:23,520

and that's great and I think that's

1166

00:44:27,050 --> 00:44:24,900

what's so exciting right now about the

1167

00:44:28,790 --> 00:44:27,060

microscope movement and education

1168

00:44:32,630 --> 00:44:28,800

entrepreneurship more broadly as we're

1169

00:44:35,450 --> 00:44:32,640

just seeing this abundance of options

1170

00:44:37,609 --> 00:44:35,460

and diversity of options ranging from

1171

00:44:39,410 --> 00:44:37,619

these unschooling Learning Centers and

1172

00:44:42,470 --> 00:44:39,420

micro schools to Montessori micro

1173

00:44:44,270 --> 00:44:42,480

schools to classical models of micro

1174

00:44:45,890 --> 00:44:44,280

schooling you know kind of something for

1175

00:44:47,329 --> 00:44:45,900

everybody so that's just great to see

1176

00:44:49,910 --> 00:44:47,339

and it really is just about what

1177

00:44:52,550 --> 00:44:49,920

individual families preferences are

1178

00:44:54,470 --> 00:44:52,560

but in terms of unschooling and

1179

00:44:56,089 --> 00:44:54,480

self-directed education you know I write

1180

00:44:57,650 --> 00:44:56,099

a lot about in the book about my

1181

00:45:00,050 --> 00:44:57,660

children's experiences of kind of

1182

00:45:01,670 --> 00:45:00,060

learning outside of schooling through

1183

00:45:03,710 --> 00:45:01,680

you know following their own passions

1184

00:45:06,530 --> 00:45:03,720

and interests I talk a lot about the

1185

00:45:08,630 --> 00:45:06,540

Sudbury model of schooling modeled after

1186

00:45:11,870 --> 00:45:08,640

Sudbury Valley School which was founded

1187

00:45:13,609 --> 00:45:11,880

in 1968 and continues to exist today my

1188

00:45:17,030 --> 00:45:13,619

younger kids actually attend Sudbury

1189

00:45:19,010 --> 00:45:17,040

Valley and Sudbury the Sudbury model has

1190

00:45:21,410 --> 00:45:19,020

now expanded across the world to dozens

1191

00:45:23,750 --> 00:45:21,420

of other Sudbury style schools and

1192

00:45:25,490 --> 00:45:23,760

Sudbury was modeled after the Summer

1193

00:45:29,089 --> 00:45:25,500

Hill School the famed Summerhill school

1194

00:45:31,609 --> 00:45:29,099

that was founded in England in 1921 by

1195

00:45:34,670 --> 00:45:31,619

a.s Neo and then as Neil ended up

1196

00:45:37,130 --> 00:45:34,680

writing a book in 1960 called Summer

1197

00:45:39,230 --> 00:45:37,140

Hill School a new view of childhood that

1198

00:45:41,569 --> 00:45:39,240

ended up selling about 2 million copies

1199

00:45:44,089 --> 00:45:41,579

in its first decade in print and

1200

00:45:46,250 --> 00:45:44,099

inspired other Educators like John Holt

1201
00:45:47,990 --> 00:45:46,260
who I mentioned earlier on was the

1202
00:45:50,390 --> 00:45:48,000
person who coined the term unschooling

1203
00:45:52,970 --> 00:45:50,400
as well as Paul Goodman who wrote

1204
00:45:55,190 --> 00:45:52,980
compulsory miseducation and Yvonne

1205
00:45:57,650 --> 00:45:55,200
Ilyich who wrote the schooling society

1206
00:45:59,329 --> 00:45:57,660
and so on so it's interesting just to

1207
00:46:00,950 --> 00:45:59,339
see where all of this kind of fits into

1208
00:46:03,589 --> 00:46:00,960
the self-directed the modern

1209
00:46:04,250 --> 00:46:03,599
self-directed education movement today

1210
00:46:06,890 --> 00:46:04,260
um

1211
00:46:08,690 --> 00:46:06,900
very interesting and in terms of your

1212
00:46:11,329 --> 00:46:08,700
own kids I've heard you say that I think

1213
00:46:14,390 --> 00:46:11,339

it's your oldest daughter she started in

1214

00:46:16,730 --> 00:46:14,400

martial arts on her own Direction and

1215

00:46:18,770 --> 00:46:16,740

then from there was interested in Korean

1216

00:46:21,470 --> 00:46:18,780

culture and language and then from there

1217

00:46:23,870 --> 00:46:21,480

you just found someone locally who

1218

00:46:25,790 --> 00:46:23,880

speaks Korean as a first language and

1219

00:46:28,309 --> 00:46:25,800

set up meetings with them and now your

1220

00:46:31,010 --> 00:46:28,319

daughter has learned Korean yeah yeah

1221

00:46:32,809 --> 00:46:31,020

that's a perfect example of there was a

1222

00:46:35,329 --> 00:46:32,819

new martial arts studio that was opening

1223

00:46:37,250 --> 00:46:35,339

in our neighborhood and she expressed

1224

00:46:40,309 --> 00:46:37,260

interest in what was happening there

1225

00:46:42,290 --> 00:46:40,319

they had a little TV that was just kind

1226
00:46:43,490 --> 00:46:42,300
of showing the martial arts moves and

1227
00:46:44,750 --> 00:46:43,500
she was like oh that's interesting I

1228
00:46:47,569 --> 00:46:44,760
want to know about that I think she was

1229
00:46:50,329 --> 00:46:47,579
about 11 at the time and so she ended up

1230
00:46:51,829 --> 00:46:50,339
walking in and talking with the person

1231
00:46:54,170 --> 00:46:51,839
who was running the martial arts studio

1232
00:46:55,849 --> 00:46:54,180
and took a introductory lesson and fell

1233
00:46:58,010 --> 00:46:55,859
in love with martial arts she now has

1234
00:46:59,630 --> 00:46:58,020
her black belt here we are probably over

1235
00:47:02,150 --> 00:46:59,640
five years later

1236
00:47:03,950 --> 00:47:02,160
and yes through that process of learning

1237
00:47:06,470 --> 00:47:03,960
martial arts and really committing to

1238
00:47:08,630 --> 00:47:06,480

that she became interested in Korean

1239

00:47:10,670 --> 00:47:08,640

culture and history and began reading

1240

00:47:13,430 --> 00:47:10,680

more about that and then

1241

00:47:15,770 --> 00:47:13,440

did some Korean language classes that

1242

00:47:18,170 --> 00:47:15,780

are on Duolingo which is a free online

1243

00:47:20,329 --> 00:47:18,180

language learning platform

1244

00:47:22,250 --> 00:47:20,339

she loved that but then wanted something

1245

00:47:23,690 --> 00:47:22,260

a little bit more rigorous so then I was

1246

00:47:26,990 --> 00:47:23,700

able to find her just kind of through

1247

00:47:29,630 --> 00:47:27,000

Community networks here in Boston a

1248

00:47:31,849 --> 00:47:29,640

native South Korean speaker who she met

1249

00:47:33,470 --> 00:47:31,859

with periodically to learn Korean

1250

00:47:35,930 --> 00:47:33,480

language so and she still loves

1251
00:47:37,370 --> 00:47:35,940
languages as a result of that but that's

1252
00:47:39,890 --> 00:47:37,380
another example of what I was saying

1253
00:47:42,530 --> 00:47:39,900
before that unschooling is not

1254
00:47:45,050 --> 00:47:42,540
necessarily not using curriculum or

1255
00:47:46,970 --> 00:47:45,060
using instructors and kind of these sort

1256
00:47:49,370 --> 00:47:46,980
of formal metrics of what we would

1257
00:47:52,250 --> 00:47:49,380
consider with education it just means

1258
00:47:53,809 --> 00:47:52,260
that it's all self-chosen yeah I think

1259
00:47:56,030 --> 00:47:53,819
that's really really interesting

1260
00:47:57,710 --> 00:47:56,040
especially that you just use your local

1261
00:48:00,230 --> 00:47:57,720
network I think that needs to happen

1262
00:48:01,849 --> 00:48:00,240
more and more in our society because we

1263
00:48:04,190 --> 00:48:01,859

kind of got away from it with these big

1264

00:48:07,190 --> 00:48:04,200

overarching Mega corporations just

1265

00:48:09,290 --> 00:48:07,200

standardizing everything for us and it

1266

00:48:12,170 --> 00:48:09,300

also probably speaks to why so many kids

1267

00:48:14,030 --> 00:48:12,180

myself included go through school and

1268

00:48:15,349 --> 00:48:14,040

come out and people finally start asking

1269

00:48:16,609 --> 00:48:15,359

well what do you want to do with your

1270

00:48:18,650 --> 00:48:16,619

life what are you interested in it's

1271

00:48:19,970 --> 00:48:18,660

like I don't know I never even got much

1272

00:48:22,250 --> 00:48:19,980

of a chance to think about it

1273

00:48:25,849 --> 00:48:22,260

everything's been kind of thrown at me

1274

00:48:27,829 --> 00:48:25,859

and it's probably a factor there's also

1275

00:48:30,109 --> 00:48:27,839

kind of a psychological issue I think

1276

00:48:33,109 --> 00:48:30,119

that parents probably deal with of

1277

00:48:35,089 --> 00:48:33,119

letting go to a degree maybe Letting Go

1278

00:48:37,670 --> 00:48:35,099

isn't the right term but another example

1279

00:48:39,950 --> 00:48:37,680

another place where this happens is

1280

00:48:43,069 --> 00:48:39,960

staying in jobs that we don't like

1281

00:48:45,170 --> 00:48:43,079

because we're afraid of the unknown we

1282

00:48:47,510 --> 00:48:45,180

can't quit because we just don't know

1283

00:48:49,250 --> 00:48:47,520

that other job that next thing it could

1284

00:48:51,950 --> 00:48:49,260

be worse than this even though this is

1285

00:48:53,569 --> 00:48:51,960

bad and I'm sure that happens in this

1286

00:48:55,130 --> 00:48:53,579

case too when you talk to new parents

1287

00:48:58,309 --> 00:48:55,140

that are like yeah I know the public

1288

00:49:00,109 --> 00:48:58,319

education system is in the toilet but I

1289

00:49:02,390 --> 00:49:00,119

went through it and I managed to come

1290

00:49:04,550 --> 00:49:02,400

out okay maybe I should just put my kid

1291

00:49:07,250 --> 00:49:04,560

in it because this unschooling thing

1292

00:49:09,349 --> 00:49:07,260

it's so unstructured it's I just don't

1293

00:49:12,050 --> 00:49:09,359

know about it and again the unknown is

1294

00:49:14,030 --> 00:49:12,060

scary to people do you end up having to

1295

00:49:15,950 --> 00:49:14,040

deal with that that there's parents who

1296

00:49:17,690 --> 00:49:15,960

know the system is sub-optimal but at

1297

00:49:19,370 --> 00:49:17,700

least it's what they know

1298

00:49:21,530 --> 00:49:19,380

well come on Greg you must have known

1299

00:49:23,510 --> 00:49:21,540

that you would be a podcaster when you

1300

00:49:25,490 --> 00:49:23,520

were in elementary school right I mean

1301

00:49:27,950 --> 00:49:25,500

of course but it's a perfect example of

1302

00:49:31,849 --> 00:49:27,960

we don't even know what the jobs will be

1303

00:49:34,010 --> 00:49:31,859

uh 5 10 15 years from now right so we

1304

00:49:37,250 --> 00:49:34,020

have a conventional system of schooling

1305

00:49:41,150 --> 00:49:37,260

that has set expectations and kind of

1306

00:49:43,010 --> 00:49:41,160

arbitrary curriculum goals that may be

1307

00:49:45,829 --> 00:49:43,020

completely mismatched with the jobs of

1308

00:49:49,010 --> 00:49:45,839

the future and we're not kind of helping

1309

00:49:52,190 --> 00:49:49,020

kids to develop those Curiosities and

1310

00:49:53,990 --> 00:49:52,200

critical thinking skills and agency kind

1311

00:49:55,490 --> 00:49:54,000

of the sense that they're in charge of

1312

00:49:57,490 --> 00:49:55,500

their own destiny that will really

1313

00:50:01,010 --> 00:49:57,500

enable them to

1314

00:50:03,650 --> 00:50:01,020

identify and adapt to whatever kind of

1315

00:50:05,329 --> 00:50:03,660

economic conditions might exist at the

1316

00:50:07,849 --> 00:50:05,339

time and whatever New Opportunities

1317

00:50:09,349 --> 00:50:07,859

might appear in the marketplace

1318

00:50:12,109 --> 00:50:09,359

and I think you make another really

1319

00:50:14,089 --> 00:50:12,119

interesting point that is so crucial is

1320

00:50:15,530 --> 00:50:14,099

I think a lot of us you know went

1321

00:50:17,329 --> 00:50:15,540

through I went through Public Schools

1322

00:50:19,309 --> 00:50:17,339

K-12

1323

00:50:20,990 --> 00:50:19,319

and you know kind of got good at playing

1324

00:50:23,089 --> 00:50:21,000

the game of school you know again

1325

00:50:24,950 --> 00:50:23,099

regurgitating for the teacher and the

1326

00:50:27,650 --> 00:50:24,960

test what they wanted

1327

00:50:29,630 --> 00:50:27,660

but not really kind of internalizing

1328

00:50:31,370 --> 00:50:29,640

this love of learning because it was

1329

00:50:32,870 --> 00:50:31,380

much more about Conformity and

1330

00:50:35,329 --> 00:50:32,880

compliance in school than about

1331

00:50:37,670 --> 00:50:35,339

creativity and curiosity

1332

00:50:38,870 --> 00:50:37,680

so I think a lot of us as adults might

1333

00:50:40,910 --> 00:50:38,880

look back on this and say well that's

1334

00:50:43,790 --> 00:50:40,920

just what school is like you just have

1335

00:50:45,950 --> 00:50:43,800

to grin and bear it and instead I think

1336

00:50:49,130 --> 00:50:45,960

I'd urge parents to say there is another

1337

00:50:50,809 --> 00:50:49,140

way like your kids don't have to well

1338

00:50:53,329 --> 00:50:50,819

first they shouldn't be miserable in

1339

00:50:55,910 --> 00:50:53,339

school there are joyful learning spaces

1340

00:50:59,450 --> 00:50:55,920

and ways in which children can learn and

1341

00:51:01,130 --> 00:50:59,460

develop that are just filled with joy

1342

00:51:03,470 --> 00:51:01,140

and happiness and that should be a

1343

00:51:05,210 --> 00:51:03,480

priority for parents but the other thing

1344

00:51:08,390 --> 00:51:05,220

to think about is that you know is it

1345

00:51:10,790 --> 00:51:08,400

really worth having your kids sort of

1346

00:51:14,210 --> 00:51:10,800

you leave their creativity and curiosity

1347

00:51:16,730 --> 00:51:14,220

at the schoolhouse door right and trade

1348

00:51:19,490 --> 00:51:16,740

creativity for compliance and kind of

1349

00:51:21,530 --> 00:51:19,500

learn to color in the lines and

1350

00:51:23,329 --> 00:51:21,540

stay in a straight line and all of that

1351
00:51:25,370 --> 00:51:23,339
when they're walking from class to class

1352
00:51:26,870 --> 00:51:25,380
like is that really what's going to help

1353
00:51:29,030 --> 00:51:26,880
them achieve

1354
00:51:32,030 --> 00:51:29,040
what a parent would want them to achieve

1355
00:51:33,650 --> 00:51:32,040
in later life and that achievement you

1356
00:51:36,470 --> 00:51:33,660
know is very much around I think

1357
00:51:38,270 --> 00:51:36,480
personal agency self-actualization human

1358
00:51:40,010 --> 00:51:38,280
flourishing and I'm just not sure that

1359
00:51:43,849 --> 00:51:40,020
kind of the standard system of schooling

1360
00:51:46,730 --> 00:51:43,859
can facilitate that mm-hmm yeah totally

1361
00:51:48,950 --> 00:51:46,740
agree and I guess before we really start

1362
00:51:51,170 --> 00:51:48,960
wrapping this thing up these are podcast

1363
00:51:53,450 --> 00:51:51,180

listeners and you said you're upping it

1364

00:51:55,549 --> 00:51:53,460

to two a week there are a lot of really

1365

00:51:58,569 --> 00:51:55,559

good stories on your podcast personal

1366

00:52:01,609 --> 00:51:58,579

stories from people are there particular

1367

00:52:03,710 --> 00:52:01,619

episodes that you thought were personal

1368

00:52:05,450 --> 00:52:03,720

favorites that maybe people should start

1369

00:52:07,670 --> 00:52:05,460

with if they wanted to jump into a

1370

00:52:10,250 --> 00:52:07,680

episode or two

1371

00:52:12,710 --> 00:52:10,260

oh that's great thank you yes the

1372

00:52:14,569 --> 00:52:12,720

podcast is the liberated podcast

1373

00:52:17,030 --> 00:52:14,579

you know I did one at the end of

1374

00:52:19,970 --> 00:52:17,040

November that I referenced in our

1375

00:52:22,370 --> 00:52:19,980

discussion today Greg that is about

1376
00:52:23,870 --> 00:52:22,380
these microscope Founders in Jackson

1377
00:52:26,450 --> 00:52:23,880
Mississippi

1378
00:52:28,809 --> 00:52:26,460
where the daughter is off of her anxiety

1379
00:52:32,690 --> 00:52:28,819
and ADHD medication so that was episode

1380
00:52:34,250 --> 00:52:32,700
51 in November 29th that would be one to

1381
00:52:36,290 --> 00:52:34,260
really think about

1382
00:52:38,270 --> 00:52:36,300
and then you know I mean I think they're

1383
00:52:41,569 --> 00:52:38,280
all they're also interesting I kind of

1384
00:52:43,790 --> 00:52:41,579
take a peek of what sort of works for

1385
00:52:45,950 --> 00:52:43,800
you know particular interests there's

1386
00:52:48,950 --> 00:52:45,960
one that I did in early November from a

1387
00:52:51,650 --> 00:52:48,960
visit in Kansas on microschooling and

1388
00:52:54,049 --> 00:52:51,660

neurodiversity so microscope Founders

1389

00:52:55,790 --> 00:52:54,059

creating an intentional microscope

1390

00:52:59,809 --> 00:52:55,800

Community for neurodiverse students

1391

00:53:01,069 --> 00:52:59,819

students with autism and ADHD and other

1392

00:53:03,530 --> 00:53:01,079

kinds of

1393

00:53:05,569 --> 00:53:03,540

disabilities that was a really I thought

1394

00:53:07,670 --> 00:53:05,579

inspirational one there's another one

1395

00:53:10,790 --> 00:53:07,680

with the founder who I mentioned is

1396

00:53:13,010 --> 00:53:10,800

whose goal is 100 schools in 10 years so

1397

00:53:14,930 --> 00:53:13,020

just kind of poke around and see but

1398

00:53:17,870 --> 00:53:14,940

just some great words of wisdom there

1399

00:53:21,349 --> 00:53:17,880

from entrepreneurs across the country

1400

00:53:23,809 --> 00:53:21,359

yes yes I love it Well Carrie this has

1401
00:53:26,030 --> 00:53:23,819
been really awesome of course unschooled

1402
00:53:28,730 --> 00:53:26,040
is the book tell them about any other

1403
00:53:30,650 --> 00:53:28,740
irons in the fire that you have that

1404
00:53:33,170 --> 00:53:30,660
they might want to follow up on

1405
00:53:34,910 --> 00:53:33,180
yeah so right now I'm just working on a

1406
00:53:36,170 --> 00:53:34,920
lot of Storytelling around these

1407
00:53:38,809 --> 00:53:36,180
entrepreneurs who are building

1408
00:53:40,849 --> 00:53:38,819
Innovative learning models continuing to

1409
00:53:43,190 --> 00:53:40,859
travel we'll be doing more travel in

1410
00:53:45,589 --> 00:53:43,200
2023 to different cities across the

1411
00:53:47,569 --> 00:53:45,599
country meeting with these clusters of

1412
00:53:49,849 --> 00:53:47,579
Education entrepreneurs telling their

1413
00:53:52,250 --> 00:53:49,859

stories at Forbes and in my columns at

1414

00:53:54,950 --> 00:53:52,260

fee I also have a a weekly email

1415

00:53:57,410 --> 00:53:54,960

newsletter that digs into kind of deeper

1416

00:53:59,210 --> 00:53:57,420

issues around the podcast guests and

1417

00:54:00,950 --> 00:53:59,220

also kind of educational Trends from

1418

00:54:02,270 --> 00:54:00,960

this fresh perspective maybe a

1419

00:54:03,230 --> 00:54:02,280

non-traditional unconventional

1420

00:54:05,750 --> 00:54:03,240

perspective

1421

00:54:09,470 --> 00:54:05,760

so love to have people follow me there

1422

00:54:11,930 --> 00:54:09,480

great awesome well thanks again I am

1423

00:54:13,970 --> 00:54:11,940

happy to see people taking back their

1424

00:54:16,309 --> 00:54:13,980

power in a lot of different ways and

1425

00:54:19,849 --> 00:54:16,319

education is one of the big areas where

1426

00:54:22,430 --> 00:54:19,859

it's most important and maybe we will

1427

00:54:25,309 --> 00:54:22,440

see the fruits in 20 years when our next

1428

00:54:28,069 --> 00:54:25,319

generation is more creative and less

1429

00:54:30,109 --> 00:54:28,079

constricted but uh this was great keep

1430

00:54:31,549 --> 00:54:30,119

doing what you do and take care thanks

1431

00:54:33,349 --> 00:54:31,559

Craig

1432

00:54:36,530 --> 00:54:33,359

good

1433

00:54:39,109 --> 00:54:36,540

heck yeah heck yeah our side shot are so

1434

00:54:40,970 --> 00:54:39,119

glad I put this one on the calendar I

1435

00:54:42,890 --> 00:54:40,980

think I originally learned about Carrie

1436

00:54:45,890 --> 00:54:42,900

When I Was preparing for the John Bush

1437

00:54:47,870 --> 00:54:45,900

interview he had Carrie on his show and

1438

00:54:50,750 --> 00:54:47,880

I just thought she was great

1439

00:54:53,210 --> 00:54:50,760

not only knowledgeable in a wide range

1440

00:54:55,370 --> 00:54:53,220

of creative things happening outside the

1441

00:54:57,829 --> 00:54:55,380

standard educational box but also being

1442

00:55:00,770 --> 00:54:57,839

a podcaster means I know she'll have a

1443

00:55:02,270 --> 00:55:00,780

decent audio setup it's hard to not at

1444

00:55:03,829 --> 00:55:02,280

least consider that when thinking about

1445

00:55:06,470 --> 00:55:03,839

who to bring on

1446

00:55:08,030 --> 00:55:06,480

so I'm glad she was willing to talk on a

1447

00:55:10,190 --> 00:55:08,040

show with a name like the higher side

1448

00:55:12,589 --> 00:55:10,200

chats given that she's a serious person

1449

00:55:15,349 --> 00:55:12,599

doing serious things

1450

00:55:17,809 --> 00:55:15,359

anyway also a big thank you to the plate

1451
00:55:20,750 --> 00:55:17,819
scrapers the Bluegrass boys of Virginia

1452
00:55:23,930 --> 00:55:20,760
for that opening theme cover if you like

1453
00:55:25,849 --> 00:55:23,940
that kind of music at all check them out

1454
00:55:26,930 --> 00:55:25,859
their YouTube channel has some great

1455
00:55:29,569 --> 00:55:26,940
stuff

1456
00:55:31,370 --> 00:55:29,579
someone in their Circle definitely knows

1457
00:55:34,370 --> 00:55:31,380
a lot about audio because even their

1458
00:55:36,230 --> 00:55:34,380
music videos the audio is just so crisp

1459
00:55:38,690 --> 00:55:36,240
it's hard not to love it

1460
00:55:40,730 --> 00:55:38,700
they actually did an original theme for

1461
00:55:42,950 --> 00:55:40,740
me back in the day when we were doing it

1462
00:55:45,230 --> 00:55:42,960
like that and then they were the first

1463
00:55:48,349 --> 00:55:45,240

to send me a cover of the one we're

1464

00:55:50,990 --> 00:55:48,359

using now at the time that it came out

1465

00:55:53,030 --> 00:55:51,000

and basically spawned this whole idea of

1466

00:55:54,230 --> 00:55:53,040

trying to collect more and more covers

1467

00:55:56,809 --> 00:55:54,240

of it so

1468

00:55:58,670 --> 00:55:56,819

I appreciate that they did it first and

1469

00:56:01,670 --> 00:55:58,680

uh for the idea

1470

00:56:04,309 --> 00:56:01,680

but yes even before I had a kid I was

1471

00:56:06,829 --> 00:56:04,319

kind of big on this Education topic the

1472

00:56:09,109 --> 00:56:06,839

history is spelled out so well that

1473

00:56:11,569 --> 00:56:09,119

obviously there was an ulterior motive

1474

00:56:14,030 --> 00:56:11,579

to compulsory schooling

1475

00:56:15,530 --> 00:56:14,040

that wasn't just trying to produce the

1476

00:56:18,650 --> 00:56:15,540

best and brightest

1477

00:56:20,630 --> 00:56:18,660

in our education is so critical to how

1478

00:56:22,790 --> 00:56:20,640

we think as adults

1479

00:56:24,530 --> 00:56:22,800

a lot of those patterns that are

1480

00:56:26,210 --> 00:56:24,540

established then carry on through the

1481

00:56:28,309 --> 00:56:26,220

rest of our lives

1482

00:56:31,190 --> 00:56:28,319

Carlin summed up a lot of this really

1483

00:56:33,470 --> 00:56:31,200

well in the early 2000s it's about three

1484

00:56:35,510 --> 00:56:33,480

minutes I'm just gonna play it

1485

00:56:36,770 --> 00:56:35,520

but if you talk to one of them about

1486

00:56:38,150 --> 00:56:36,780

this if you isolate one of them you sit

1487

00:56:40,490 --> 00:56:38,160

them down rationally you talk to them

1488

00:56:42,170 --> 00:56:40,500

about the low IQs and the dumb Behavior

1489

00:56:43,849 --> 00:56:42,180

and the bad decisions right away they

1490

00:56:45,710 --> 00:56:43,859

start talking about education that's the

1491

00:56:47,450 --> 00:56:45,720

big answer to everything education they

1492

00:56:49,130 --> 00:56:47,460

said we need more money for Education we

1493

00:56:51,170 --> 00:56:49,140

need more more books more teachers more

1494

00:56:53,089 --> 00:56:51,180

classrooms more schools we need more

1495

00:56:54,589 --> 00:56:53,099

testing for the kids you say to them

1496

00:56:56,450 --> 00:56:54,599

well you know we've tried all of that

1497

00:56:58,190 --> 00:56:56,460

and the kids still can't pass the test

1498

00:57:00,710 --> 00:56:58,200

so don't you worry about that we're

1499

00:57:01,609 --> 00:57:00,720

going to lower the passing grades that's

1500

00:57:02,870 --> 00:57:01,619

what they're doing a lot of these

1501
00:57:05,210 --> 00:57:02,880
schools now they lower the passing grade

1502
00:57:06,710 --> 00:57:05,220
so more kids can pass more kids pass the

1503
00:57:08,270 --> 00:57:06,720
school looks good everybody's happy the

1504
00:57:10,130 --> 00:57:08,280
IQ of the country slips another two or

1505
00:57:11,690 --> 00:57:10,140
three points and pretty soon all you'll

1506
00:57:13,549 --> 00:57:11,700
need to get into college is a

1507
00:57:18,290 --> 00:57:13,559
pencil

1508
00:57:20,270 --> 00:57:18,300
physics then everyone wonders why 17

1509
00:57:22,970 --> 00:57:20,280
other countries graduate more scientists

1510
00:57:24,890 --> 00:57:22,980
than we do thank you

1511
00:57:26,750 --> 00:57:24,900
and you just know that word they use

1512
00:57:29,450 --> 00:57:26,760
politicians have traditionally hidden

1513
00:57:32,450 --> 00:57:29,460

behind three things the flag the Bible

1514

00:57:34,790 --> 00:57:32,460

and children No Child Left Behind No

1515

00:57:35,809 --> 00:57:34,800

Child Left Behind oh really well it

1516

00:57:38,210 --> 00:57:35,819

wasn't long ago you were talking about

1517

00:57:40,370 --> 00:57:38,220

giving kids a Head Start Head Start left

1518

00:57:42,410 --> 00:57:40,380

behind someone's losing ground

1519

00:57:48,349 --> 00:57:42,420

here

1520

00:57:51,049 --> 00:57:48,359

reason education sucks and it's the same

1521

00:57:52,730 --> 00:57:51,059

reason that it will never ever ever be

1522

00:57:55,250 --> 00:57:52,740

fixed it's never going to get any better

1523

00:57:57,890 --> 00:57:55,260

don't look for it be happy with what you

1524

00:58:00,349 --> 00:57:57,900

got because the owners of this country

1525

00:58:03,109 --> 00:58:00,359

don't want that I'm talking about the

1526

00:58:05,150 --> 00:58:03,119

real owners now the real owners the big

1527

00:58:06,770 --> 00:58:05,160

wealthy business interests that control

1528

00:58:09,230 --> 00:58:06,780

things and make all the important

1529

00:58:10,549 --> 00:58:09,240

decisions forget the politicians the

1530

00:58:12,290 --> 00:58:10,559

politicians are put there to give you

1531

00:58:15,950 --> 00:58:12,300

the idea that you have freedom of choice

1532

00:58:19,370 --> 00:58:15,960

you don't you have no choice you have

1533

00:58:22,190 --> 00:58:19,380

owners they own you they own everything

1534

00:58:23,930 --> 00:58:22,200

they own all the important land they own

1535

00:58:25,130 --> 00:58:23,940

and control the corporations they've

1536

00:58:26,750 --> 00:58:25,140

long since bought and paid for the

1537

00:58:28,190 --> 00:58:26,760

Senate the Congress the state houses the

1538

00:58:29,930 --> 00:58:28,200

City Halls they got the judges in their

1539

00:58:31,790 --> 00:58:29,940

back pockets and they own all the big

1540

00:58:32,990 --> 00:58:31,800

media companies so they control just

1541

00:58:35,270 --> 00:58:33,000

about all of the news and information

1542

00:58:37,670 --> 00:58:35,280

you get to hear they got you by the

1543

00:58:41,990 --> 00:58:37,680

balls they spend billions of dollars

1544

00:58:43,010 --> 00:58:42,000

every year lobbying lobbying to get what

1545

00:58:46,849 --> 00:58:43,020

they want

1546

00:58:48,470 --> 00:58:46,859

more for themselves and less for

1547

00:58:50,390 --> 00:58:48,480

everybody else but I'll tell you what

1548

00:58:52,250 --> 00:58:50,400

they don't want they don't want a

1549

00:58:53,390 --> 00:58:52,260

population of citizens capable of

1550

00:58:55,609 --> 00:58:53,400

critical thinking they don't want

1551
00:58:57,170 --> 00:58:55,619
well-informed well-educated people

1552
00:58:58,789 --> 00:58:57,180
capable of critical thinking they're not

1553
00:59:01,010 --> 00:58:58,799
interested in that that doesn't help

1554
00:59:02,930 --> 00:59:01,020
them that's against their interests

1555
00:59:04,250 --> 00:59:02,940
that's right

1556
00:59:05,510 --> 00:59:04,260
they don't want people who are smart

1557
00:59:06,829 --> 00:59:05,520
enough to sit around the kitchen table

1558
00:59:08,089 --> 00:59:06,839
and figure out how badly they're getting

1559
00:59:10,130 --> 00:59:08,099
by a system that threw them

1560
00:59:11,569 --> 00:59:10,140
overboard 30 years ago they

1561
00:59:14,930 --> 00:59:11,579
don't want that you know what they want

1562
00:59:17,329 --> 00:59:14,940
they want obedient workers obedient

1563
00:59:19,130 --> 00:59:17,339

workers people who are just smart enough

1564

00:59:21,470 --> 00:59:19,140

to run the machines and do the paperwork

1565

00:59:23,630 --> 00:59:21,480

and just dumb enough to passively accept

1566

00:59:25,730 --> 00:59:23,640

all these increasingly shittier jobs

1567

00:59:28,010 --> 00:59:25,740

with the lower pay the longer hours the

1568

00:59:29,510 --> 00:59:28,020

reduced benefits the end of overtime and

1569

00:59:31,069 --> 00:59:29,520

the vanishing pension that disappears

1570

00:59:33,230 --> 00:59:31,079

the minute you go to collect it and now

1571

00:59:35,630 --> 00:59:33,240

they're coming for your Social Security

1572

00:59:38,390 --> 00:59:35,640

money they want your retirement

1573

00:59:40,069 --> 00:59:38,400

money they want it back so they can give

1574

00:59:41,630 --> 00:59:40,079

it to their criminal friends on Wall

1575

00:59:43,250 --> 00:59:41,640

Street and you know something they'll

1576

00:59:45,109 --> 00:59:43,260

get it they'll get it all from you

1577

00:59:47,510 --> 00:59:45,119

sooner or later because they own this

1578

00:59:49,630 --> 00:59:47,520

place it's a big Club

1579

00:59:54,789 --> 00:59:49,640

and you ain't in it

1580

00:59:57,530 --> 00:59:54,799

you and I are not in the big Club

1581

01:00:00,650 --> 00:59:57,540

and people always do remember that last

1582

01:00:02,390 --> 01:00:00,660

line but so much of the entire bit is

1583

01:00:04,490 --> 01:00:02,400

about education

1584

01:00:05,930 --> 01:00:04,500

it's getting worse and worse and they

1585

01:00:07,970 --> 01:00:05,940

don't care

1586

01:00:09,829 --> 01:00:07,980

the only thing I think he said that was

1587

01:00:10,910 --> 01:00:09,839

slightly incorrect is that it can't be

1588

01:00:13,010 --> 01:00:10,920

fixed

1589

01:00:14,990 --> 01:00:13,020

education as a government institution

1590

01:00:16,490 --> 01:00:15,000

yeah sure and I I know that's what he

1591

01:00:19,069 --> 01:00:16,500

really meant but the hope and

1592

01:00:20,510 --> 01:00:19,079

opportunity is in what's going on in

1593

01:00:22,490 --> 01:00:20,520

Carrie's world

1594

01:00:24,049 --> 01:00:22,500

so whether you have kids or not I would

1595

01:00:27,109 --> 01:00:24,059

hope that you'd find this interesting

1596

01:00:29,809 --> 01:00:27,119

because any signs that we might find a

1597

01:00:31,789 --> 01:00:29,819

way to turn this ship around in 20 years

1598

01:00:33,710 --> 01:00:31,799

is based on what we're seeing happening

1599

01:00:35,510 --> 01:00:33,720

with the kids today

1600

01:00:37,190 --> 01:00:35,520

so even if you don't have your own maybe

1601
01:00:39,770 --> 01:00:37,200
you have friends or family that have

1602
01:00:42,049 --> 01:00:39,780
kids that might be searching for

1603
01:00:43,190 --> 01:00:42,059
a person like Carrie and the unschooling

1604
01:00:45,890 --> 01:00:43,200
movement

1605
01:00:48,170 --> 01:00:45,900
or perhaps you just know people who are

1606
01:00:49,910 --> 01:00:48,180
actual teachers who have had complaints

1607
01:00:51,829 --> 01:00:49,920
recently and could benefit from a

1608
01:00:53,089 --> 01:00:51,839
realignment of their careers with some

1609
01:00:55,789 --> 01:00:53,099
of this stuff

1610
01:00:58,430 --> 01:00:55,799
I suspect that everything from social

1611
01:01:00,349 --> 01:00:58,440
media to the politicizing of the

1612
01:01:02,690 --> 01:01:00,359
classroom is really going to screw

1613
01:01:04,130 --> 01:01:02,700

things up for a long while before they

1614

01:01:06,890 --> 01:01:04,140

get any better

1615

01:01:09,829 --> 01:01:06,900

but unschooling and some of the truly

1616

01:01:11,150 --> 01:01:09,839

alternative models do make me long-term

1617

01:01:12,890 --> 01:01:11,160

optimistic

1618

01:01:15,230 --> 01:01:12,900

and who really knows what we'll be

1619

01:01:17,750 --> 01:01:15,240

dealing with by then but I see at least

1620

01:01:20,270 --> 01:01:17,760

something to be positive about in the

1621

01:01:22,789 --> 01:01:20,280

big shift out of the system

1622

01:01:25,069 --> 01:01:22,799

it never served us anyway right so why

1623

01:01:28,250 --> 01:01:25,079

do we trust it with our kids and why do

1624

01:01:30,829 --> 01:01:28,260

we keep going back to it not really much

1625

01:01:32,569 --> 01:01:30,839

more complicated than that is it

1626

01:01:35,870 --> 01:01:32,579

so if you want more of this kind of

1627

01:01:38,690 --> 01:01:35,880

thing her podcast liberated goes deep on

1628

01:01:40,490 --> 01:01:38,700

so many various personal stories

1629

01:01:42,289 --> 01:01:40,500

attached to this unschooling movement

1630

01:01:45,109 --> 01:01:42,299

it's really great

1631

01:01:46,549 --> 01:01:45,119

education of course is a core element of

1632

01:01:48,829 --> 01:01:46,559

how we gotten this mess that we have

1633

01:01:50,930 --> 01:01:48,839

today where so many critical thinkers

1634

01:01:53,329 --> 01:01:50,940

feel like they're on an island in their

1635

01:01:55,430 --> 01:01:53,339

families and friend groups

1636

01:01:57,349 --> 01:01:55,440

which makes it an important thing to

1637

01:01:59,750 --> 01:01:57,359

cover if you liked the first hour this

1638

01:02:01,730 --> 01:01:59,760

week or any week sign up for THC plus

1639

01:02:04,970 --> 01:02:01,740

and hear the second hour of all of these

1640

01:02:06,950 --> 01:02:04,980

interviews today we talked about common

1641

01:02:09,650 --> 01:02:06,960

mistakes that first time homeschoolers

1642

01:02:11,930 --> 01:02:09,660

tend to make common psychological

1643

01:02:14,150 --> 01:02:11,940

barriers that parents experience when

1644

01:02:17,809 --> 01:02:14,160

committing to unschooling

1645

01:02:20,510 --> 01:02:17,819

the Arizona Universal education savings

1646

01:02:23,510 --> 01:02:20,520

account policy quite Creative Learning

1647

01:02:26,569 --> 01:02:23,520

risk versus Danger for young kids

1648

01:02:28,730 --> 01:02:26,579

research on bullying and its relation to

1649

01:02:29,630 --> 01:02:28,740

the structured environment that they are

1650

01:02:38,990 --> 01:02:29,640

in

1651
01:02:40,130 --> 01:02:39,000
and the major failure of conventional

1652
01:02:42,530 --> 01:02:40,140
schooling

1653
01:02:44,329 --> 01:02:42,540
and some advice for those teachers that

1654
01:02:45,829 --> 01:02:44,339
would like to transition to an

1655
01:02:47,870 --> 01:02:45,839
unschooling career

1656
01:02:50,569 --> 01:02:47,880
we always get into a lot of good stuff

1657
01:02:52,250 --> 01:02:50,579
with that extra time and THC plus is

1658
01:02:54,770 --> 01:02:52,260
only eight bucks a month for the five

1659
01:02:57,109 --> 01:02:54,780
shows I put out less than a dollar an

1660
01:02:59,870 --> 01:02:57,119
hour which is a popular metric in the

1661
01:03:01,789 --> 01:02:59,880
value for Value model and I spare you

1662
01:03:03,170 --> 01:03:01,799
all the stupid ads that the other shows

1663
01:03:05,150 --> 01:03:03,180

are doing which has to be worth

1664

01:03:07,250 --> 01:03:05,160

something right

1665

01:03:09,470 --> 01:03:07,260

I think it's the best deal in podcasting

1666

01:03:12,950 --> 01:03:09,480

and it kicks off with a seven day free

1667

01:03:15,349 --> 01:03:12,960

trial hop on in and treat yourself we

1668

01:03:18,289 --> 01:03:15,359

cover more ground in two hour interviews

1669

01:03:20,750 --> 01:03:18,299

than some shows could do in four

1670

01:03:22,970 --> 01:03:20,760

the plus comment section is always

1671

01:03:25,010 --> 01:03:22,980

active and you can rate episodes along

1672

01:03:27,829 --> 01:03:25,020

with everyone else that I consider when

1673

01:03:30,289 --> 01:03:27,839

picking future show topics and you get

1674

01:03:33,530 --> 01:03:30,299

an RSS feed link that you can plug right

1675

01:03:35,270 --> 01:03:33,540

into the majority of podcasting apps and

1676

01:03:37,490 --> 01:03:35,280

most likely the one that you're

1677

01:03:40,370 --> 01:03:37,500

listening to me on right now

1678

01:03:43,010 --> 01:03:40,380

the higher sidechats.com pull it up in

1679

01:03:45,470 --> 01:03:43,020

your mobile browser it's quite easy

1680

01:03:47,270 --> 01:03:45,480

and to the actual Plus members I can't

1681

01:03:49,370 --> 01:03:47,280

thank you enough you really are the

1682

01:03:51,170 --> 01:03:49,380

muscle behind this show in a lot of ways

1683

01:03:53,809 --> 01:03:51,180

and you keep the train

1684

01:03:55,250 --> 01:03:53,819

chugging along hopefully for all my

1685

01:03:57,289 --> 01:03:55,260

remaining years

1686

01:03:59,329 --> 01:03:57,299

before we go it's important to look at

1687

01:04:01,730 --> 01:03:59,339

the events that you guys have created at

1688

01:04:04,490 --> 01:04:01,740

higherside meetups.com a free and open

1689

01:04:06,710 --> 01:04:04,500

Meetup calendar available to any THC

1690

01:04:08,930 --> 01:04:06,720

listeners who want to form a stronger

1691

01:04:10,609 --> 01:04:08,940

local community based on a mutual love

1692

01:04:11,870 --> 01:04:10,619

for the sort of things we talk about

1693

01:04:14,329 --> 01:04:11,880

around here

1694

01:04:16,730 --> 01:04:14,339

you do have to make an account it helps

1695

01:04:20,270 --> 01:04:16,740

us prevent spam and also it's just good

1696

01:04:22,849 --> 01:04:20,280

to have a person running point on any

1697

01:04:25,309 --> 01:04:22,859

event that shows up on the calendar but

1698

01:04:27,109 --> 01:04:25,319

it is not just for plus people and in

1699

01:04:29,390 --> 01:04:27,119

fact it's totally separate your Plus

1700

01:04:32,270 --> 01:04:29,400

account is not ported over there

1701

01:04:34,670 --> 01:04:32,280

I've seen some confusion in both regards

1702

01:04:37,250 --> 01:04:34,680

so just to set the record straight it is

1703

01:04:39,109 --> 01:04:37,260

for anyone and it is separate from any

1704

01:04:42,289 --> 01:04:39,119

person's Plus account

1705

01:04:44,870 --> 01:04:42,299

it is just a basic account that you

1706

01:04:48,049 --> 01:04:44,880

would make that is required for putting

1707

01:04:50,390 --> 01:04:48,059

events on the calendar and also for RSVP

1708

01:04:52,730 --> 01:04:50,400

which is just good form

1709

01:04:54,829 --> 01:04:52,740

it's polite you want a person to know

1710

01:04:57,170 --> 01:04:54,839

how many they should expect

1711

01:05:00,589 --> 01:04:57,180

but it is typically a good time from

1712

01:05:04,130 --> 01:05:00,599

what I hear and next on the list we got

1713

01:05:06,109 --> 01:05:04,140

the Los Angeles truthers on January 12th

1714

01:05:07,730 --> 01:05:06,119

going to Flame International Restaurant

1715

01:05:10,549 --> 01:05:07,740

once again

1716

01:05:13,190 --> 01:05:10,559

January 13th the

1717

01:05:16,069 --> 01:05:13,200

National Friday the 13th Meetup in

1718

01:05:20,210 --> 01:05:16,079

Nevada City at the national bar

1719

01:05:23,750 --> 01:05:20,220

also January 13th the sinspiracy monthly

1720

01:05:26,690 --> 01:05:23,760

Mad Tree Brewing Meetup for THC fans in

1721

01:05:30,170 --> 01:05:26,700

Cincinnati Ohio January 14th Denver

1722

01:05:32,510 --> 01:05:30,180

Colorado they are having a book swap on

1723

01:05:36,230 --> 01:05:32,520

top of just getting together also

1724

01:05:39,049 --> 01:05:36,240

January 14th the Williamton THC meet and

1725

01:05:41,210 --> 01:05:39,059

greet at Williamton Brewery Company in

1726

01:05:44,569 --> 01:05:41,220

Wilmington North Carolina

1727

01:05:46,670 --> 01:05:44,579

January 15th we have a meet up in Sandy

1728

01:05:48,950 --> 01:05:46,680

Utah at Athena beans

1729

01:05:51,710 --> 01:05:48,960

January 17th would you look at that

1730

01:05:54,170 --> 01:05:51,720

someone put one on the calendar for San

1731

01:05:57,230 --> 01:05:54,180

Diego at Society Brewing

1732

01:05:59,870 --> 01:05:57,240

I will just be getting off a plane from

1733

01:06:01,490 --> 01:05:59,880

a trip I'm taking to New Orleans with

1734

01:06:03,049 --> 01:06:01,500

some buddies of mine

1735

01:06:05,030 --> 01:06:03,059

but it's going to be hard to miss one

1736

01:06:05,990 --> 01:06:05,040

right here in my hometown we'll see what

1737

01:06:08,450 --> 01:06:06,000

happens

1738

01:06:11,630 --> 01:06:08,460

and then for the rest of January we have

1739

01:06:14,089 --> 01:06:11,640

some in Philadelphia one in Portland and

1740

01:06:15,890 --> 01:06:14,099

one in Guatemala

1741

01:06:18,289 --> 01:06:15,900

how interesting

1742

01:06:21,770 --> 01:06:18,299

if you're in any of those areas hop onto

1743

01:06:23,390 --> 01:06:21,780

the site and get the details as well as

1744

01:06:25,430 --> 01:06:23,400

RSVP

1745

01:06:29,569 --> 01:06:25,440

and if there's not one in your area hop

1746

01:06:32,270 --> 01:06:29,579

on the site and add it to the list

1747

01:06:34,849 --> 01:06:32,280

and that said it was great to have a

1748

01:06:35,990 --> 01:06:34,859

Solutions focused show today it is how

1749

01:06:38,510 --> 01:06:36,000

we win

1750

01:06:40,670 --> 01:06:38,520

what is the counter reaction to seeing

1751

01:06:43,609 --> 01:06:40,680

the world that's being built for us we

1752

01:06:46,309 --> 01:06:43,619

can't just stare at it in awe and say we

1753

01:06:47,450 --> 01:06:46,319

don't want it to show up because it

1754

01:06:50,270 --> 01:06:47,460

tends to

1755

01:06:52,309 --> 01:06:50,280

but if we want to build a better way for

1756

01:06:54,950 --> 01:06:52,319

ourselves and those who are on our page

1757

01:06:57,049 --> 01:06:54,960

well it starts here in education

1758

01:06:59,390 --> 01:06:57,059

so I really appreciate what Carrie does

1759

01:07:02,210 --> 01:06:59,400

let her know if you do too and I guess

1760

01:07:04,730 --> 01:07:02,220

I'll say that I've done my part your

1761

01:07:07,250 --> 01:07:04,740

move State curriculum Crafters obedience

1762

01:07:09,049 --> 01:07:07,260

training teachers and pawn making public

1763

01:07:14,289 --> 01:07:09,059

educators

1764

01:07:17,349 --> 01:07:15,880

you see

1765

01:07:21,829 --> 01:07:17,359

[Music]

1766

01:07:26,230 --> 01:07:21,839

the world is in random it's attached to

1767

01:07:28,690 --> 01:07:26,240

perfect strength control over

1768

01:07:33,410 --> 01:07:28,700

everything

1769

01:07:38,329 --> 01:07:33,420

the nine five is trying to steal you now

1770

01:07:41,450 --> 01:07:38,339

don't the job seems silly hello

1771

01:07:45,829 --> 01:07:41,460

can you hear me

1772

01:07:50,710 --> 01:07:45,839

should I play rap recordings from some

1773

01:07:53,349 --> 01:07:50,720

spying agency wish we were younger

1774

01:07:59,030 --> 01:07:53,359

and free

1775

01:08:02,829 --> 01:07:59,040

I'll be thankful when it's all exposed

1776

01:08:17,470 --> 01:08:02,839

[Music]

1777

01:08:41,370 --> 01:08:22,490

they're calling out a thousand girls

1778

01:08:57,719 --> 01:08:56,150

[Music]

1779

01:09:06,370 --> 01:08:57,729

[Applause]

1780

01:09:08,749 --> 01:09:06,380

[Music]

1781

01:09:11,709 --> 01:09:08,759

oh no

1782

01:09:16,370 --> 01:09:11,719

their cartoons

1783

01:09:20,950 --> 01:09:16,380

it's so typical of me to talk about

1784

01:09:23,769 --> 01:09:20,960

stuff I'm sorry that's good

1785

01:09:28,249 --> 01:09:23,779

and well

1786

01:09:32,709 --> 01:09:28,259

did you ever hear the argument that

1787

01:09:36,769 --> 01:09:32,719

nothing really happens it's no secret

1788

01:09:47,170 --> 01:09:36,779

and at the best is

1789

01:10:12,970 --> 01:09:58,370

[Music]

1790

01:10:33,830 --> 01:10:17,300

challenging your Paradise

1791

01:11:01,560 --> 01:10:35,740

foreign