

The Blumenfeld Education Letter

"My People Are Destroyed For Lack Of Knowledge" HOSEA 4:6

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide knowledge for parents and educators who want to save the children of America from the destructive forces that endanger them. Our children in the public schools are at grave risk in 4 ways: academically, spiritually, morally, and physically — and only a well-informed public will be able to reduce those risks.
"Without vision, the people perish."

NEA 1988-89 Resolutions Part II

The Goal is Total Power Over the Profession

The NEA has a problem: it wants teaching to be regarded and respected as a profession but it wants teachers to behave like militant, politicized unionists. The thrust of the Carnegie Forum's plan for a system of National Certification is to make the teaching profession comparable to law and medicine in its training and organization. But nowhere in that plan is there any acknowledgment that teaching is not a profession in the sense that law and medicine are.

For example, parents cannot perform appendectomies on their children, but they can teach their children the basic school subjects better than many, if not most, teachers. In fact, there is now such widespread educational malpractice in America's public schools, that parents are withdrawing their kids because of it.

Nor are doctors and lawyers organized into monolithic unions with totalitarian agendas. Doctors and lawyers are individuals who are free to practice their professions in any legal way they wish. The American Medical Association and the American Bar Association

do their best to advance the interests of doctors and lawyers. But neither association is a militant, politicized trade union whose membership lives off the taxpayer.

Nevertheless, the NEA is proceeding on the assumption that teaching is a profession and that the NEA should be in complete control of that profession.

NEA Leaders Call for Power

This drive for power is not new. In 1967, Sam Lambert, then executive secretary of the NEA, said:

"NEA will become a political power second to no other special interest group. . . . NEA will have more and more to say about how a teacher is educated, whether he should be admitted to the profession, and depending on his behavior and ability whether he should stay in the profession."

In 1969, George D. Fischer, newly elected president of the NEA, told its Representative Assembly:

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