Government Funds Higher Education

Mike Rose wrote a book called “Why School?” and Rose states that, “And if we’re going to admit people, for pure or pragmatic reasons, then we’re obliged to do everything we can do to retain them” (Rose 120). Like what Rose stated, since schools admitted students into school, they should have government pay for the funds that way we can focus on school rather than worrying about how to pay for college. Government talks about how to pay for education because it is important but why is education always the first thing to be cut? There are ways to cut other funds so that the government can afford to pay for higher education.

The cost of higher education has increased and it has become harder and harder to afford it. The forum that I attended, a guest speaker named Kristin Olsen argued, “We have to fund higher education- it is connected with the success of our economy” (Olsen). Higher education is truly the success of our economy. The students who attend college are most likely to contribute back to society. Erin Lyon is a writer who is part of a union called Workers’ Liberty and he states that, “Those who receive the benefits of higher education often pay back society’s investment through the tax system or by entering professions that benefit others” (Lyon). Olsen stated, “It should be a combination” (Olsen). It is already a combination of both parties paying for higher education. Our society wants to move forward and by having a combination of the government paying half and students paying half, we are not progressing. We are just going to stay as we are and fall deeper in a hole. There are no improvements to have a both pay.
Students cannot pay for higher education anymore. Tuition increases and there is less and less money to offer the students. I read an article online talking about money for college. In that article, Gandara and Orfield argued, “California’s students are being asked to pay much more to get less” (Gandara, Orfield). I agree with them because the tuition fees are rapidly rising each year. We as students are struggling to pay for college already. I have a friend that is having a hard time paying for tuition. She has been struggling and she told me that if she can no longer afford, she must drop out. With the tuition fees rising, it does not help solve the crisis. They also stated, “A recent report from the non-partisan Public Policy Institute of California predicts that the state will be short one million college graduates needed in 2025 to fill the jobs that require a BA” (Gandara, Orfield). This is reason for the government to help fund for higher education. Because students cannot afford to pay for college, society will suffer from it. There will be jobs open but no one suitable to take on the jobs because they did not have the money to higher their education.

Over the past ten years, the share going to higher education has declined while the share going to corrections has increased. The money that government spends for prisons and other such things should be put aside. Education is an investment. Rather than spending that money on other things, government needs to pay more attention to higher education. Prisons are not going to contribute back into society. On the other hand, higher education is going to be a success in our economy. Federal court orders have improved inmate health care, negotiated increases in compensation for correctional employees, and increased spending on rehabilitation programs (Rosenhall). If government is able to increase programs, then why can’t government increase for higher education? It seems like government is neglecting the crisis of higher education.
If the middle class cannot afford to attend college anymore, it would be a shame because we are not giving them an opportunity. America is supposed to be the land of dreams and opportunities and if the middle class cannot afford it, we are not giving them a chance at life. The middle class will not be able to attend college and with that, we will no longer have a society made up of all three classes. Government can help fund. I believe that they do have money and they can pay for higher education.

The government does have money to fund for higher education. Obviously they have money to spend on other things besides higher education. For example, they helped improve programs. Education is a program that should not be avoided. It is important to pay attention to higher education. Olsen talked about how education is important and how everyone should pay attention to it but government seems to not care. They are not doing anything to improve the situation. Nothing has been done. Tuition has increase and there is no money to pay for it. I want to know why tuition keeps on increasing when students cannot afford to pay anymore. If there is no money left and we are over budget, shouldn’t tuition decrease instead? In the future, we can depend on students who had the opportunities to go to college. They are our future to society and to improve the economy.
Works Cited


