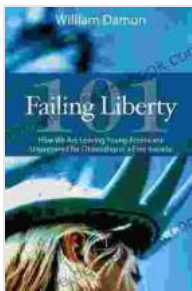# How We Are Leaving Young Americans Unprepared For Citizenship In A Free Society

In a free society, citizens are expected to be active participants in their government. They should be able to make informed decisions about the issues facing their community and country, and they should be able to express their views respectfully and persuasively. However, our educational system is failing to prepare young Americans for the challenges of citizenship.

Failing Liberty 101: How We Are Leaving Young Americans Unprepared for Citizenship in a Free Society (Hoover Institution Press Publication Book 611)

by William Damon

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1997 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 160 pages
Lending	: Enabled

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There are a number of reasons for this failure. First, our schools are increasingly focused on standardized testing. This focus has led to a narrowing of the curriculum, as schools focus on teaching students the

material that will be tested. As a result, students are not getting the well-rounded education they need to be informed citizens.

Second, our schools are increasingly segregated. This segregation means that students are not exposed to a diversity of viewpoints. As a result, they are less likely to be able to understand and appreciate the different perspectives that exist in our society.

Third, our schools are not ng enough to teach students about civics. Civics education is essential for teaching students about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. However, many schools are not teaching civics, or they are teaching it in a way that is not engaging or relevant to students' lives.

The failure of our educational system to prepare young Americans for citizenship is a serious problem. It is eroding our democracy and making it more difficult for us to address the challenges facing our country. We need to take action to address this problem and ensure that all young Americans are prepared to be active participants in our free society.
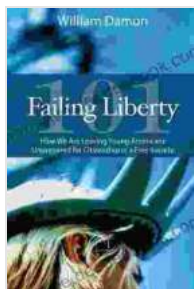
What can be done to address this problem?

There are a number of things that can be done to address the problem of our educational system failing to prepare young Americans for citizenship. First, we need to reduce our focus on standardized testing. Standardized testing is a blunt instrument that does not measure what is truly important in education. We need to move to a more holistic approach to assessment that measures students' critical thinking skills, problem-solving abilities, and creativity.

Second, we need to desegregate our schools. School segregation is a major barrier to educational equity. We need to take steps to ensure that all students have access to high-quality schools, regardless of their race or economic background.

Third, we need to improve civics education in our schools. We need to make sure that all students are learning about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. We need to teach civics in a way that is engaging and relevant to students' lives.

By taking these steps, we can help to ensure that our educational system is preparing young Americans for the challenges of citizenship in a free society.

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