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ENG 112

Research Paper

College Tuition

People currently owe more in college loans than they do in credit card debts, loans in the US involve 44.2 million American citizens and the debt is currently around \$1.45 trillion. When applying for a job, some type of college degree is almost always required. In the past when people were young they went straight into working and were making wages that provided them with everything that they needed. Free college tuition should be provided to all American citizens who are attending college as an undergraduate student because there would be more educated people to work, debt won't be a major problem like it is now, and free tuition works in other countries.

Allowing free college tuition means more people have the opportunity to attend college. Receiving a higher education has more benefits than just for getting a good job. In Jon Wiener's article *Aiming Higher: Make College Tuition Free*, he believes that everyone needs a higher education to have a better interpretation of the world, become more open minded, and to develop more creative work.

Student loans have negative effects on people that will continue to follow them for the rest of their lives. Debts emotionally affect people and causes them to fall into a depression and may lead to thoughts of suicide. *The Great College-Loan Swindle* tells the story of a 37 year old man who is buried in student loans around \$35,000. Once

married his wife and his debt together combined to over \$50,000. The debt is negatively affecting him so much that he contemplates suicide and believes his kids would be better off without him. He decides to call his wife to say goodbye for the last time but his wife talks him out of it. After receiving calls from debt collectors constantly he decides to start paying for rehabilitation to help with payments but none of his money was going towards the debt. Right out of high school young adults get involved with loans that they have to worry about paying off for years after they have graduated.

Many other countries are currently providing free tuition to their students. If it is working in other countries why can't it work in the US? The US previously had free tuition in California and other states not too long ago but the tuition just continues to increase. Countries like Sweden, Denmark, and Finland are successful in using tuition free schools. In *Where to Invade Next*, Michael Moore visits Slovenia, a college tuition free country. He talks with students and asks them how much they owe in student debt and they all answer with none because no one has to borrow money to go to school. Some students didn't even know what debt meant because they never heard of it.

College tuition should be free for students who are attending college as an undergraduate because not everyone has the benefits of going to college. Many people need immediate income when they graduate high school so going straight to work is their only option. College is expensive and not something that everyone can afford so they have to take out a loan that they eventually have to be paid off. This debt will affect people negatively. Having free college will allow people to have a beneficial start

on their adult life. The US can follow other countries models of free tuition in order to become successful.

Works Cited

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