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### Do Students Invest Wisely in College?

**ANTHONY P. CARNEVALE** 

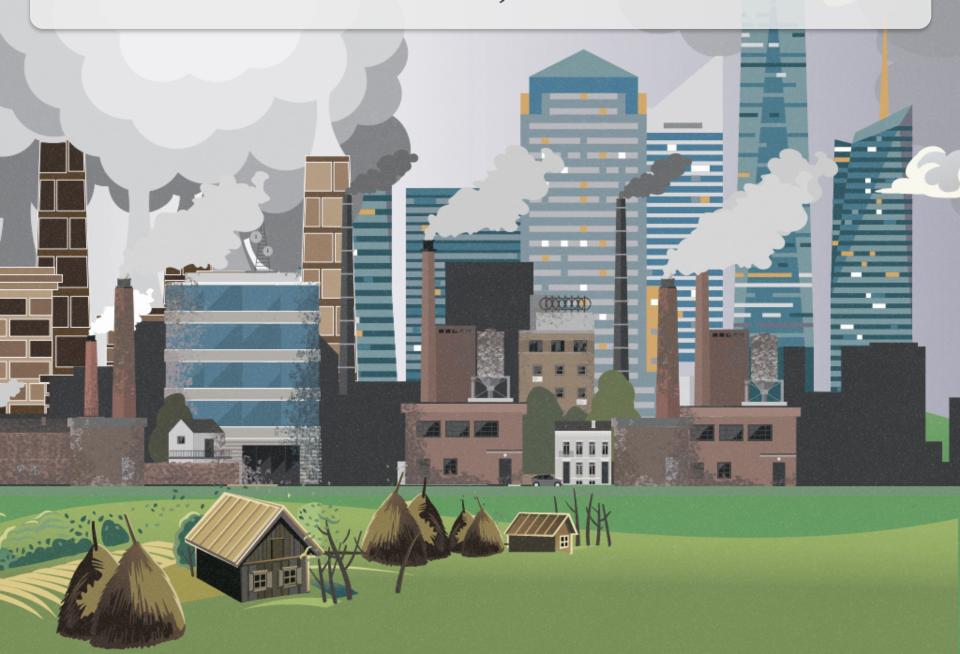
Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce



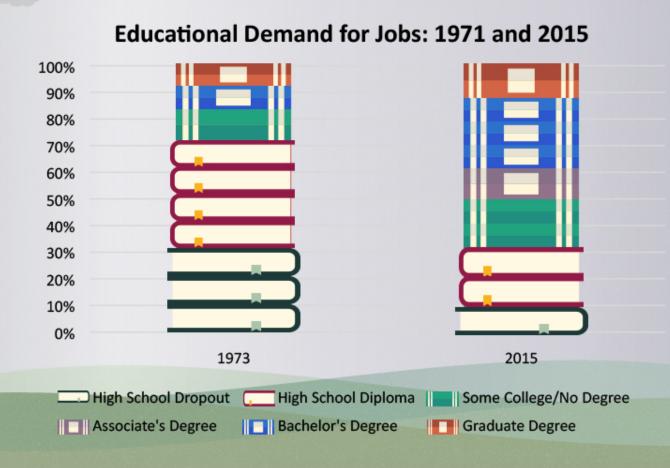
# THE HIGHER EDUCATION MISSION: TO EMPOWER INDIVIDUALS TO LIVE FULLY IN THEIR TIME, FREE FROM POVERTY AND PUBLIC DEPENDENCY



### THE MISSION ENDURES, BUT TIMES CHANGE



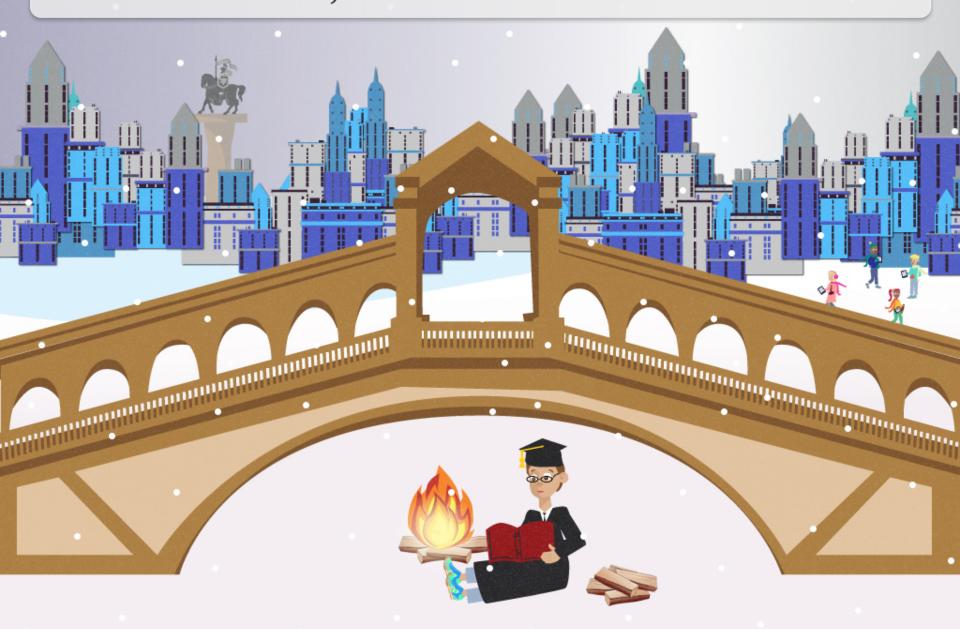
## THE BIGGEST CHANGE IS IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND THE ECONOMY



 More than 70% needed high school back in the 70s to get a job. Now, more than 60% of jobs require postsecondary education and training.



#### **ULTIMATELY, LEARNING & EARNING IS KEY**



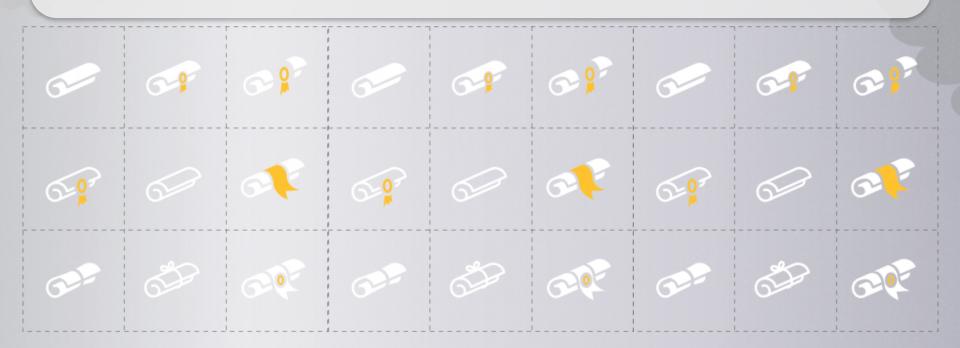
### THE GROWTH OF THE VALUE OF COLLEGE HAS BEEN GOOD FOR EDUCATED WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS

- The college wage premium—the difference between the average wage of collegeand high-school-educated workers—has spiked since 1967. By 2007, that difference had reached 81% for men, compared to 37% in 1967. The story was similar for women, with the college wage premium rising from 54% to 81% over that time.
- What is most remarkable of all, is that the average wage advantages for college workers over high school workers has doubled even though the number of college graduates has quadrupled.
- Four-year college graduates make up 37% of the workforce and 57% of the labor value added in the economy.





#### GROWTH IN THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF COLLEGE HAS BEEN GOOD FOR GENERAL EDUCATION, THE LIBERAL ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

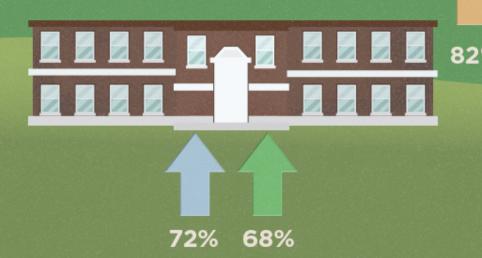


- The Since 1971, the number of college degrees has increased from 13 million to 71 million in 2015.
- 60-70% of coursework for every degree has been in general education, including the liberal arts, humanities and social sciences.

### THE RISE IN THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF COLLEGE HAS BEEN BAD NEWS FOR THE HAVE NOTS

- 80% of the growth in inequality since 1983 is due to differences in access to and success in college.
- 82% of new white students since 1995 have gone to one of the 476 selective colleges, while 68% of African American and 72% Hispanic students are going to one of the open-admission institutions.
- 70% percent of students at selective colleges are in the top socioeconomic status, 11% percent are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quartile, 17% are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and only 3% are in the bottom quartile.







9%

### NEW RULES FOR LEARNING & EARNING RULE #1: MORE EDUCATION PAYS

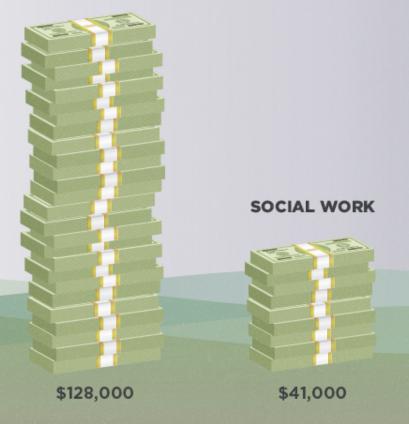


LIFETIME EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (IN 2009\$)



### RULE #2: WHAT YOU MAKE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU TAKE

#### **PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**



**ANNUAL EARNINGS** 

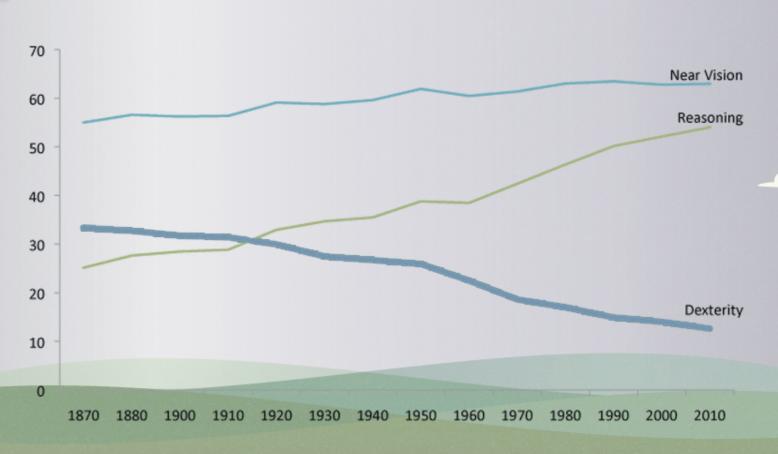
#### **RULE #3: SOMETIMES LESS IS MORE**

#### **COMPUTER CERTIFICATE**



**ANNUAL EARNINGS** 

### RULE #4: EMPLOYERS ARE HIRING FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMPETENCIES





#### **THANK YOU**

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