



“If we properly identify the actual social class characteristics that produce differences in average achievement, we should be able to design policies that narrow the achievement gap...After school and summer experiences for lower-class children, similar to programs middle-class children take for granted, would also be needed to narrow the gap. This does **not** mean remedial programs where lower-class children get added drill in math and reading. Certainly, remediation should be part of adequate after-school and summer programs, but advantages that middle-class children gain in summers and after school comes from self-confidence and awareness of the outside world they acquire in organized athletics, dance, drama, museum visits, recreational reading, and other activities that enhance inquisitiveness, creativity, self-discipline, and organizational skills. After-school and summer programs can substantially narrow the achievement gap only by duplicating such experiences.”

*Richard Rothstein; "The Social and Economic Realities that Challenge all Schools; **Independent School**, Winter 2006.*

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