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Public Forum Letter

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Civil rights activist Robert Moses, speaking last week at Kingsbury Hall, said quality public education is so important that it should become a constitutional right ("Activist calls quality schools a basic right," *Tribune*, Jan. 22). You would think a civil rights leader would be better acquainted with the source of educational success. It's called freedom, not government monopoly. Do we really need a constitutional mandate for more failed, dumbed-down, one-size-fits-all schooling?

In "Comparing Public, Private, and Market Schools: The International Evidence," Andrew Coulson collected every scientific study he could find that compared government schools with private schools. "These scores of findings span the globe and cover everything from academic achievement and cost-effectiveness to parental satisfaction," he wrote in the *New York Daily News*. "They favor competitive market school systems over state-run monopolies by a margin of 15 to 1."

If Moses were serious about quality education, he would be advocating for market solutions, not for more plantation pedagogy. In response to the shackling of children by socialist schooling, he would do well to borrow the following line from his famous namesake: "Let my people go."

Michael Morris

Spanish Fork

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