

ISSUES & INSIGHTS

WINNER OF THE 2008
Pulitzer Prize

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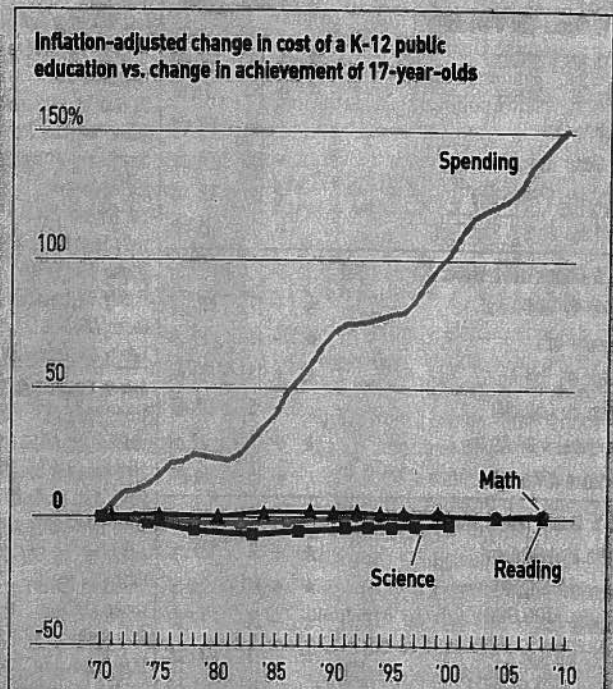
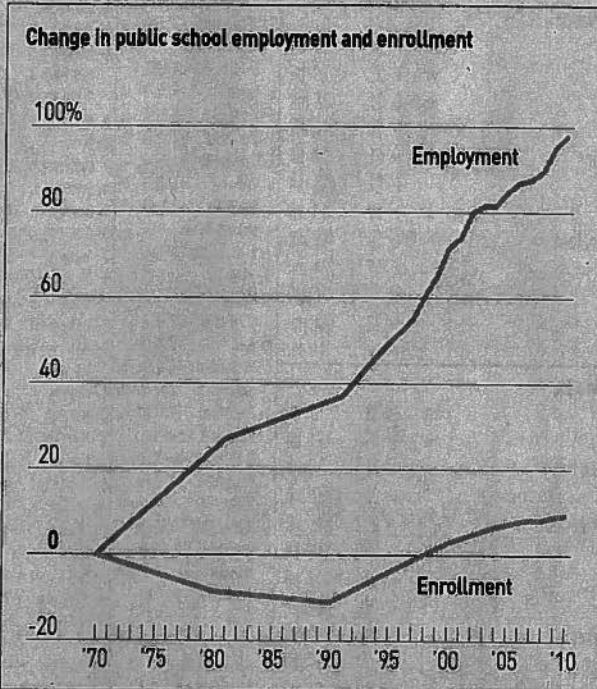
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Improving Education: More Teachers Won't Help

President Obama this week called for 10,000 new teachers to boost math and science education. But as Cato Institute education analyst Andrew Coulson notes, more teachers won't help: "Public school employment has grown 10 times faster than enrollment for 40 years, while achievement at the end of high school has stagnated in math and declined in science." Reading scores, another key education indicator, are flat. Nor does more money make a difference. Since 1970, spending on K-12 education has surged a cumulative 150%, in real terms.



Sources: National Center for Education Statistics; Andrew Coulson, Cato Institute

The Big Mac Attack On ObamaCare

Health Care: A big employer mulls dropping health insurance coverage due to ObamaCare's mandates. The claim that if you like your plan you can keep it was a lie, and the effort to destroy private insurance is working.

The 30,000 or so hourly workers at McDonald's undoubtedly like the health care plan their employer provides and would like to keep it. For \$14 a week, a worker gets a plan that caps annual benefits at \$2,000; \$32 a week gets you coverage up to \$10,000.

They get minimum coverage at a minimum price, but most younger workers are healthy and for that reason, they constitute a high percentage of the insured. What McDonald's does off

doesn't care if they're driven out of business due to higher costs. We now know health care premiums and costs will rise due to ObamaCare, another health care reform lie.

The Congressional Budget Office recently concluded that "premiums for millions of American families in 2016 will be 10% - 13% higher than they otherwise would be. This represents a \$2,100 increase per family, compared with the status quo."

Such plans are examples of the innovative ways to provide both coverage and choice private insurers can provide, but such "niche" products are in danger. We recently commented on how major insurers have dropped or will drop "child-only" policies because of the ObamaCare requirement that children with pre-existing conditions be covered without question.