



Fraud 'rampant' in education system

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A well-regarded national authority on education is claiming that political considerations are leading school officials to commit large-scale fraud.



Dr. Herbert London, president emeritus of the Hudson Institute, says fraud at every level is the reason billions of education dollars accomplish so little, and pressure to satisfy political demands is to blame. According to the [Cato Institute](#)'s Neal McCluskey, this noncriminal fraud is rampant under the government's "No Child Left Behind" program.

"Politically it is much easier to just push kids through the system than do the hard work of teaching them, holding them back if they haven't learned the material, and everything that you would need to do to make sure all kids were actually learning," he notes.

But growing abundance of charter schools and parental choice is a positive step, he notes. Further, educators need the freedom to set up different kinds of schools.

"Then you will get the real freedom that you need combined with the real accountability to have competition, which leads to innovation, which puts education on a constant trajectory of improvement -- not the stagnation and the fraud," McCluskey explains.

London, on the other hand, worries that little will be done because too many people depend on the current system for their livelihood and political power.