

## ***A Rationale for Readiness***

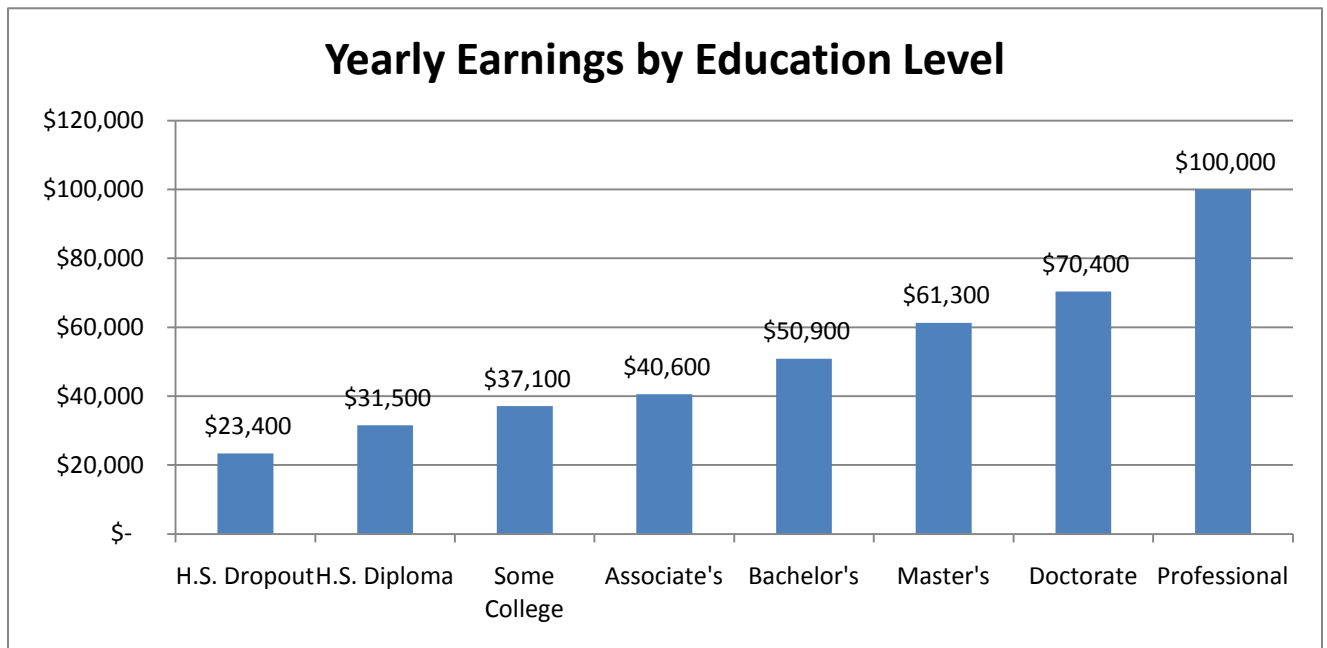
If poverty is the illness and college is the cure, then our behavior should match that.

### Personal Prosperity:

*25 year-old works to 62 with bachelor's degree will earn \$800,000 more than high school grad.*

2007 College Board study "Education Pays." "The study projects that an individual with a bachelors degree earns 61 percent more over a lifetime than a high school graduate, while a masters, 93 percent; Some college or associates degree 19 to 28 percent. "

*Source: 2006 Census Bureau; "Education Pays," 2007*



1970 - 37 percent of 18 to 19 year-olds attended college

2007 - 67 percent enrolled in college after graduation.

High School dropouts generate average income below federal poverty level.

High School grads just above federal poverty and most jobs list college as ticket to more income opportunities.

"Society pitches outline of education that begins in kindergarten & ends with high school diploma."

National Longitudinal Survey of Youth reports worker changed jobs average of 10 times between ages 18 and 42.

A distinction that is becoming more and more evident:

## Jobs vs. Careers

Jobs = pay for basic necessities

Careers = allow opportunities for quality of life improvement (increased income, retirement plans, more desirable items for comfort, better health care).

## Health Affairs 2008 Study " The Gap Gets Bigger: Changes in Mortality and Life Expectancy By Education"

Two groups studied:

(HE) Highly educated = some college or higher

(LE) Low educated = high school diploma or lower

Found HE individuals lived average of 7 years longer life expectancy. Currently HE life expectancy is rising and LE is falling.

Why?

Better health care access.

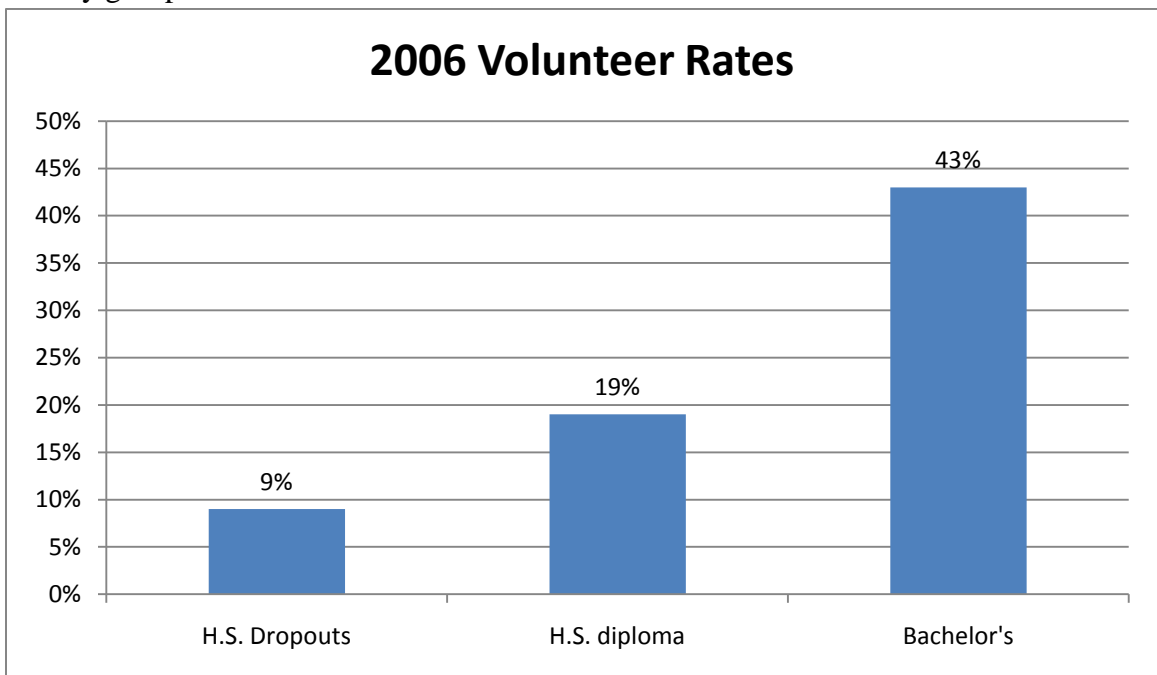
The Journal of the National Cancer Institute found decline in deaths by individuals with 16 years of education but not for high school diploma or lower.

Why?

Less educated have more risk factors for cancer (like smoking/obesity) and less access to preventative care.

"Education Pays" study echoes these results.

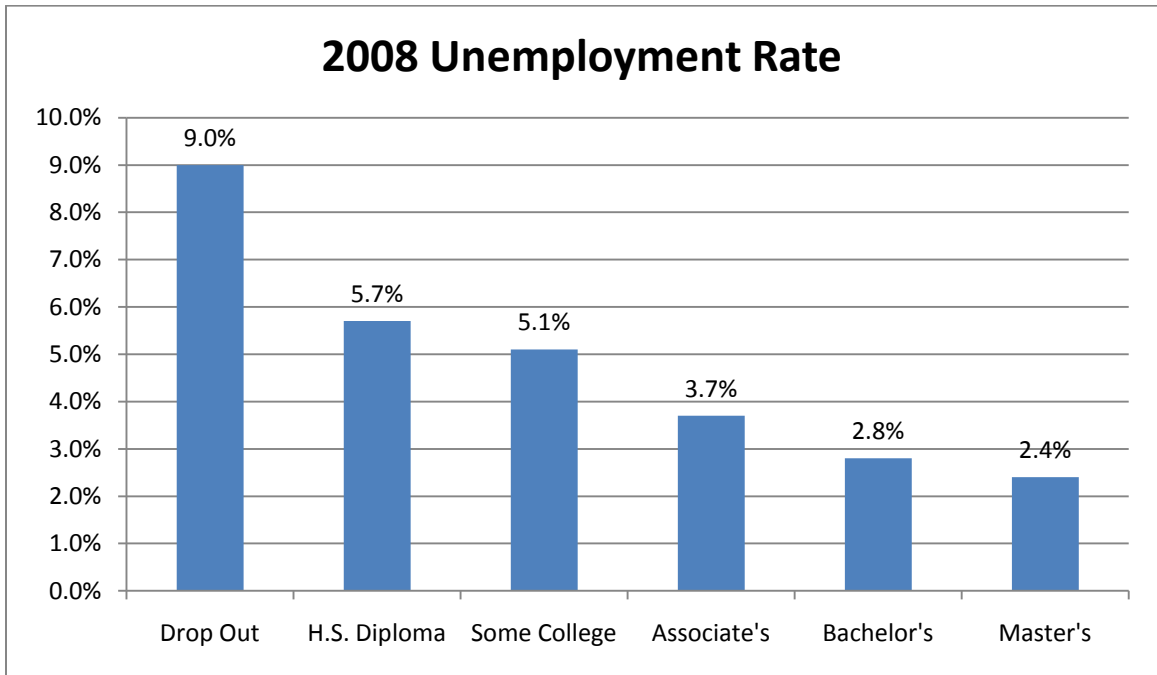
Society gets paid off as well see chart below.



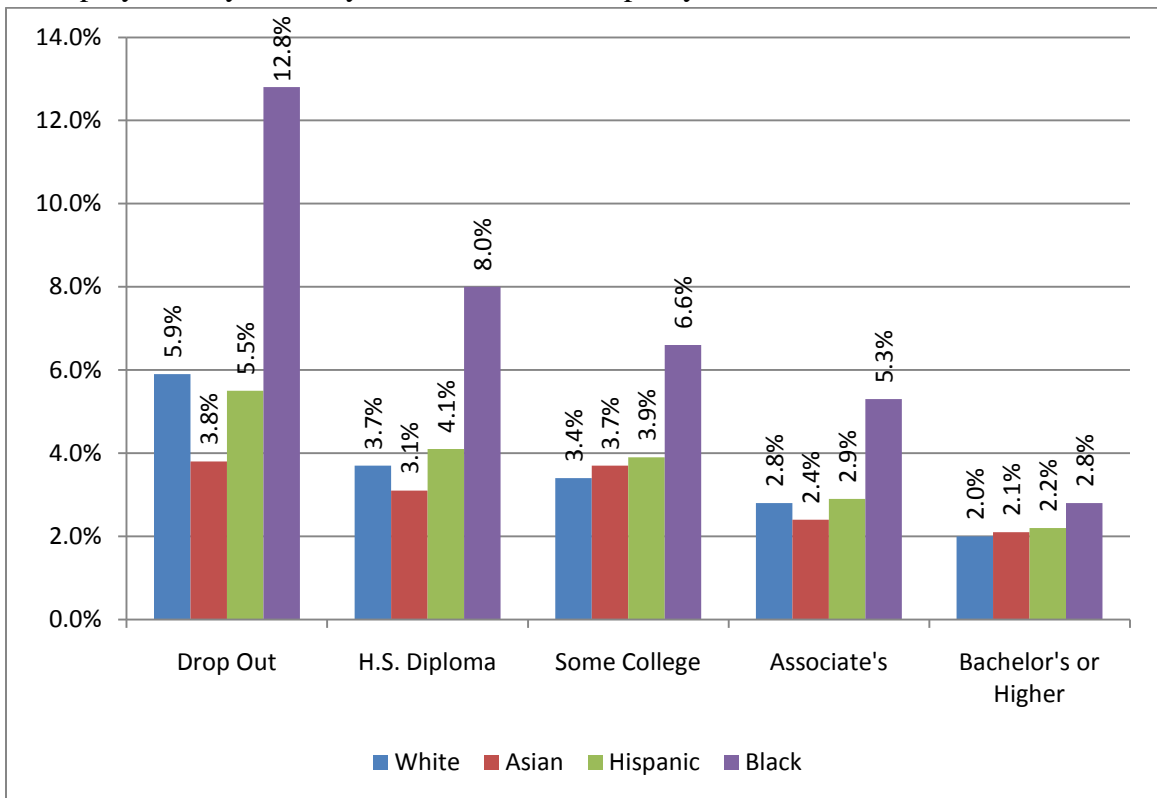
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2007

## Societal Wealth

Workforce statistics –

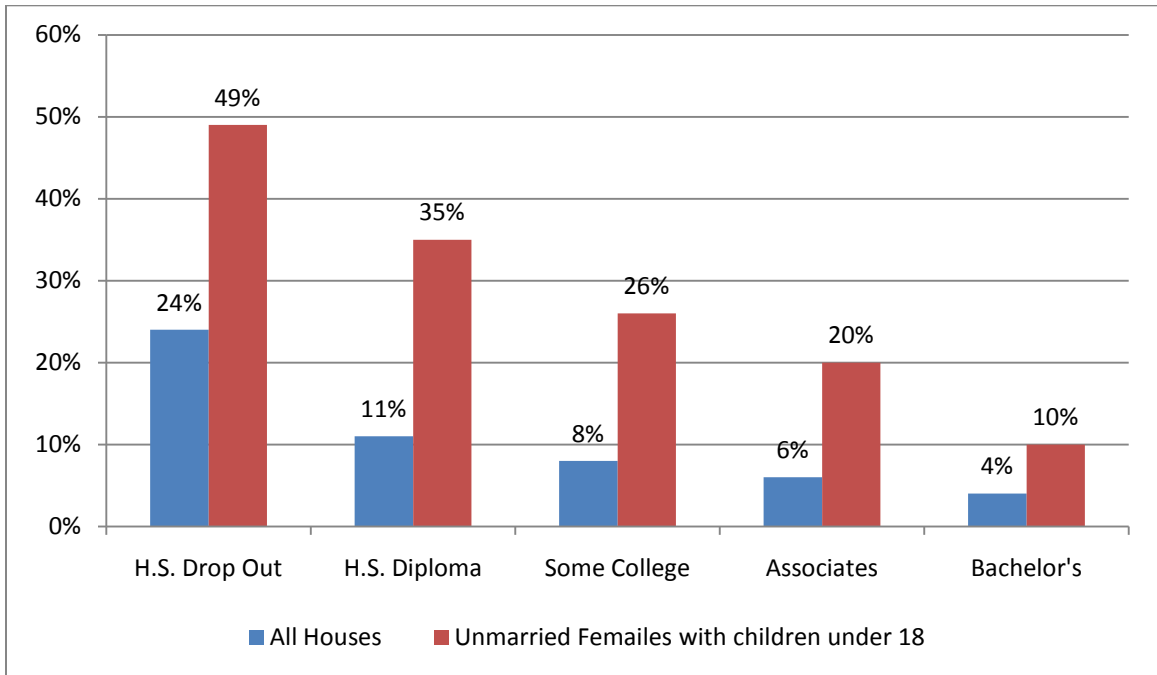


## Unemployment by ethnicity - evens out race disparity



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, 2007 "Education Pays," 2007

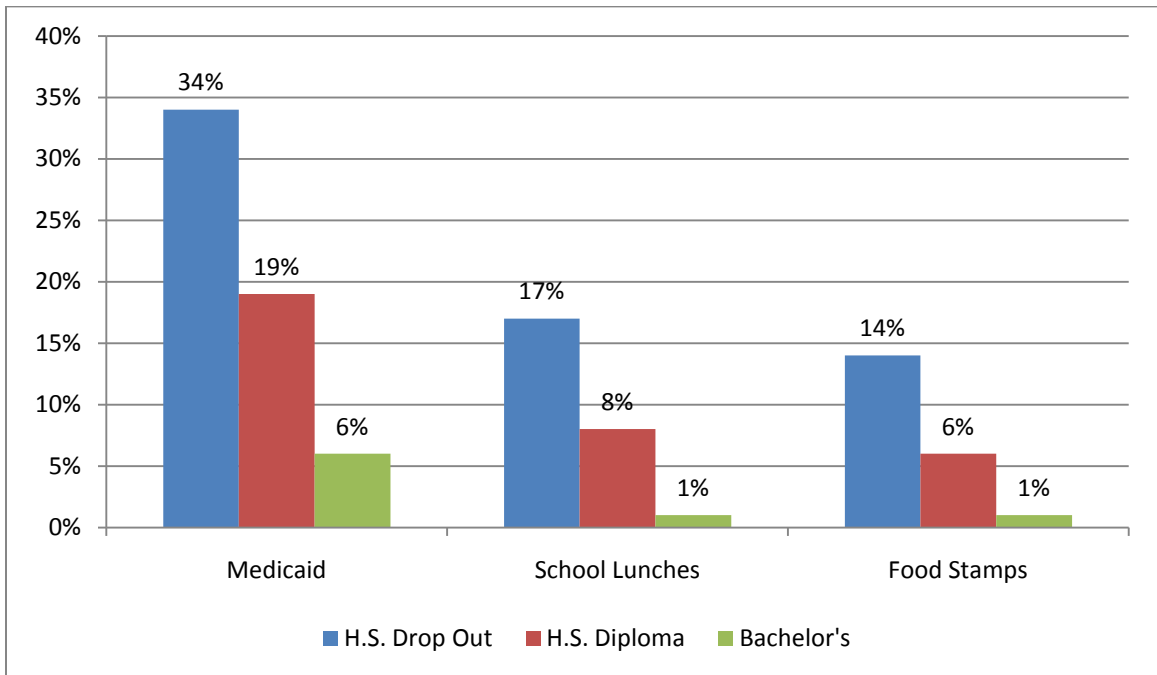
Poverty - Percentage of adults living in households of poverty –



Source: "Education Pays," 2007

Single mothers who have dropped out of high school are nearly five times as likely to live in poverty as those with a bachelor's degree.

Percentage of adults living households participating in public assistance programs –



Breaking the cycle of poverty starts with education – college for all!

1% of all adults in U.S. are in prison, 2,319,258

Mostly males and black. Three times more blacks in prison than in college dorms.

Crime - 2008 costs - \$49 billion, increase of \$11 billion since 1988 release prisoners decreases costs but does nothing to reduce crime.

Alliance for Excellent Education, 2006 found simple 5% increase in male high school graduates would save \$5 billion in prison costs. If went to college more money saved.

### ***Time for Action***

Sometimes my beliefs about what was important professionally were distant from my ability to practically apply those truths.

Albert Einstein once said, "The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing."

We have greater access to strategies and ideas proven to make a difference but we wait too long to act. We throw blame at lack of funding, massive educational bureaucracies, labor unions, etc.

Definition: What is College Readiness?

Plethora of schools are thematic - tech, writing, arts.

College Readiness cannot start in High School only

College Prep!

*"College readiness is not the idea that every child will go to college. It is the idea that every child deserves the opportunity to be prepared to enroll in college if they so choose to attend. Furthermore, beginning in elementary school, it is the responsibility of educators to make this concept come to life for each student regardless of their academic or social background."*