



Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

***"If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free,
it is the responsibility of every American to be informed."*** - Thomas Jefferson

Parents - Do You Know What Your Children Are Learning in School? Are they taught that religious freedom is the first and the foundational freedom?

It is generally agreed that John Dewey (1859-1952) is the Father of American Education and his "contributions to government schooling are still recognized as being monumental even though he died over 60 years ago," wrote researcher Brad Harrub. ⁽¹⁾ When at Columbia University, he put in place a framework for training thousands of teachers which shaped thinking on education in the U.S. and around the world.

However, Dewey was not primarily an educator but a philosopher and psychologist and not concerned with teaching new information. He was concerned with inculcating new attitudes and was considered a "social engineer" wrote education reformer, Bruce Price. ⁽²⁾

Dewey's thought was strongly influenced by Charles Darwin's theories and he conceived of education as synonymous with an evolutionary process. Therefore, he believed the individual's duty was not to himself, God, or his family, but to his culture. Dewey once wrote, "Children who know how to think for themselves spoil the harmony of the collective society which is coming where everyone is interdependent." ⁽³⁾ John Dewey's views on philosophy and education flowed from the naturalist views of Darwin. He replaced Christianity with secular humanism which he described in his essay, *A Common Faith*: "Here are all the elements for a religious faith ... Such a faith has always been the common faith of mankind. It remains for us to make it explicit and militant." ⁽⁴⁾

The Decline of American History in Public Schools - Part 1

"Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it." Edmund Burke, statesman.

"By reducing the importance of U.S. history in public schools, we deprive American children of an opportunity to learn their heritage.... The study of history cultivates an understanding and appreciation for the ideals the nation was founded upon," wrote news editor Daniel Doherty. ⁽⁵⁾ The foundational ideals of freedom: freedom of religion, freedom of conscience, and freedom of speech, are rarely emphasized or even taught.

Sadly, only 13% of U.S. High School seniors showed proficiency in their knowledge of American history, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress 2010.

(focuspress.org, 2/23/18(1)(3); americanthinker.com, 10/1/12(2); teachdiligently.com/john dewey(4); townhall.com, 10/22/11(5); nypost.com, 1/22/17; washingtontimes.com, 2/20/20)

"It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." – George Washington