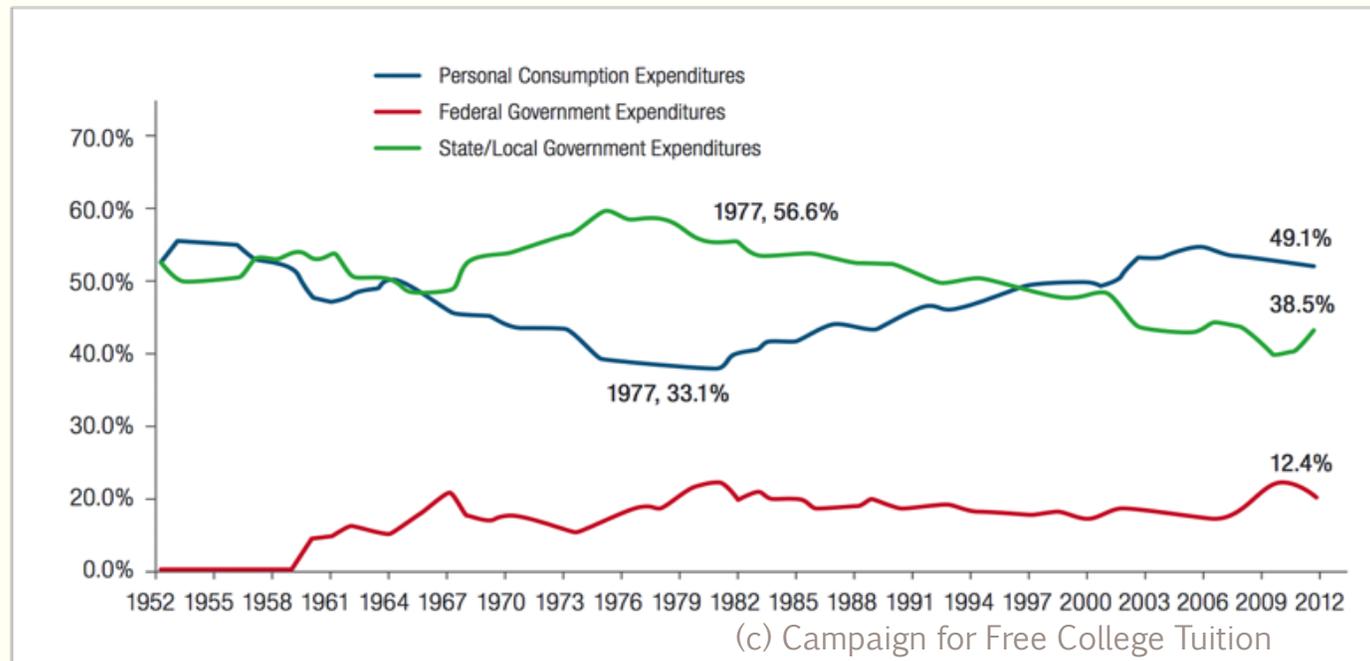


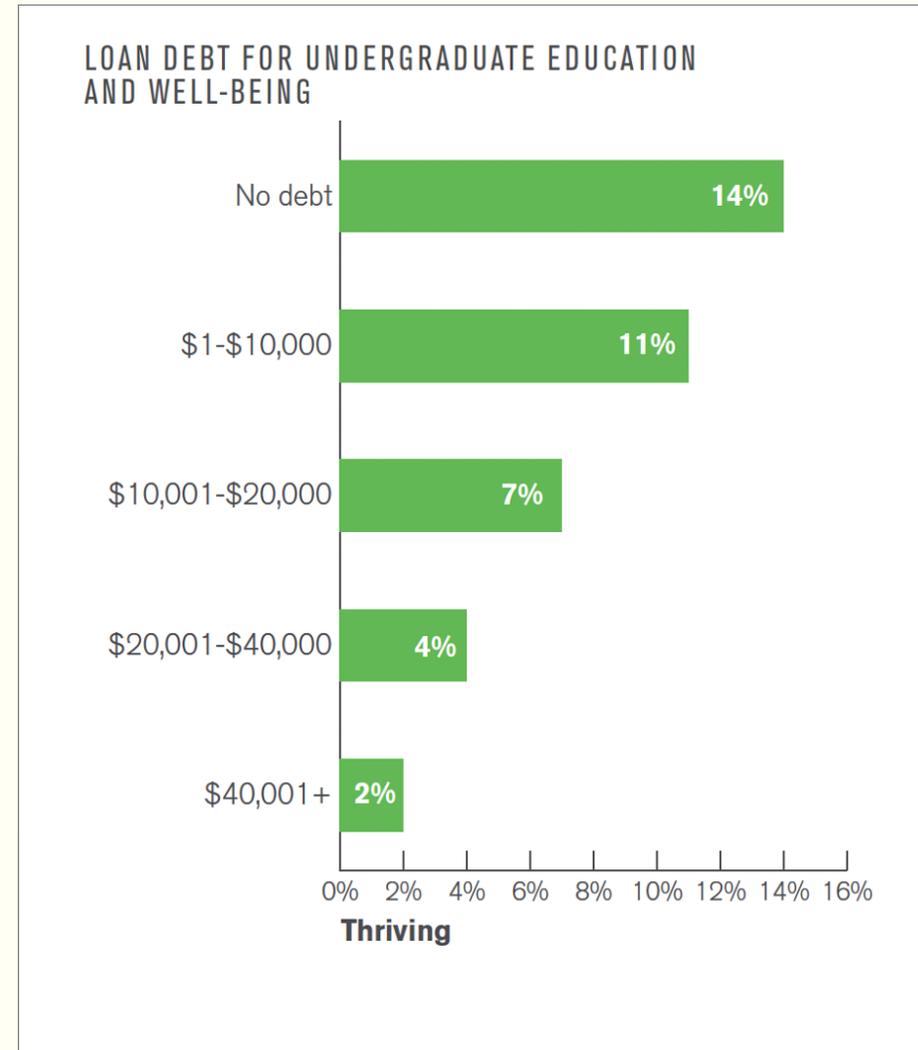
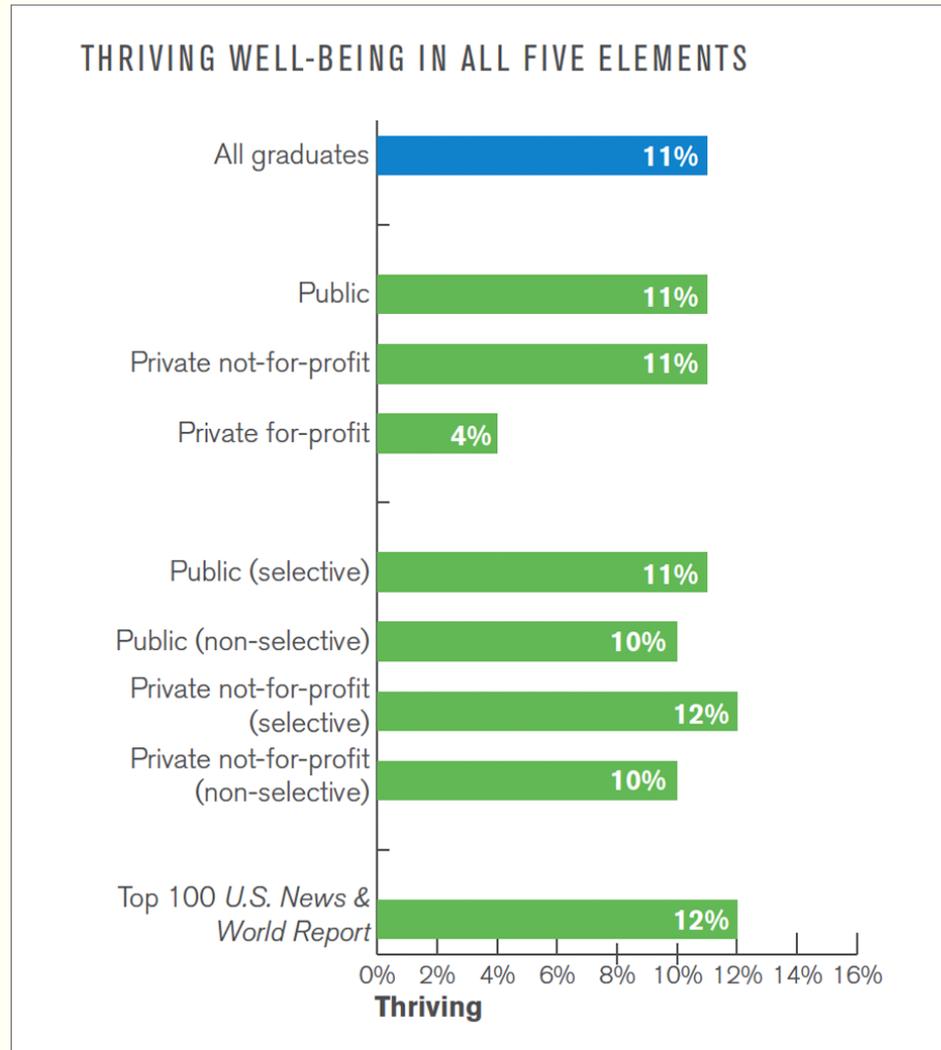
Our country's economic growth strategy has always included government support for free, universal education—until now

- Northwest Ordinance of 1787 set aside land for one room school houses
- Free, mandatory primary school education in all states by 1871
- Free, gender inclusive High Schools country wide by 1940
- GI Bill paid returning veteran's college tuition in 1945
- Civic investment in higher education started to decline in 1968, continues to this day.



Share of higher education costs paid for by students and families increased from 33% in 1977 to over 50% today.

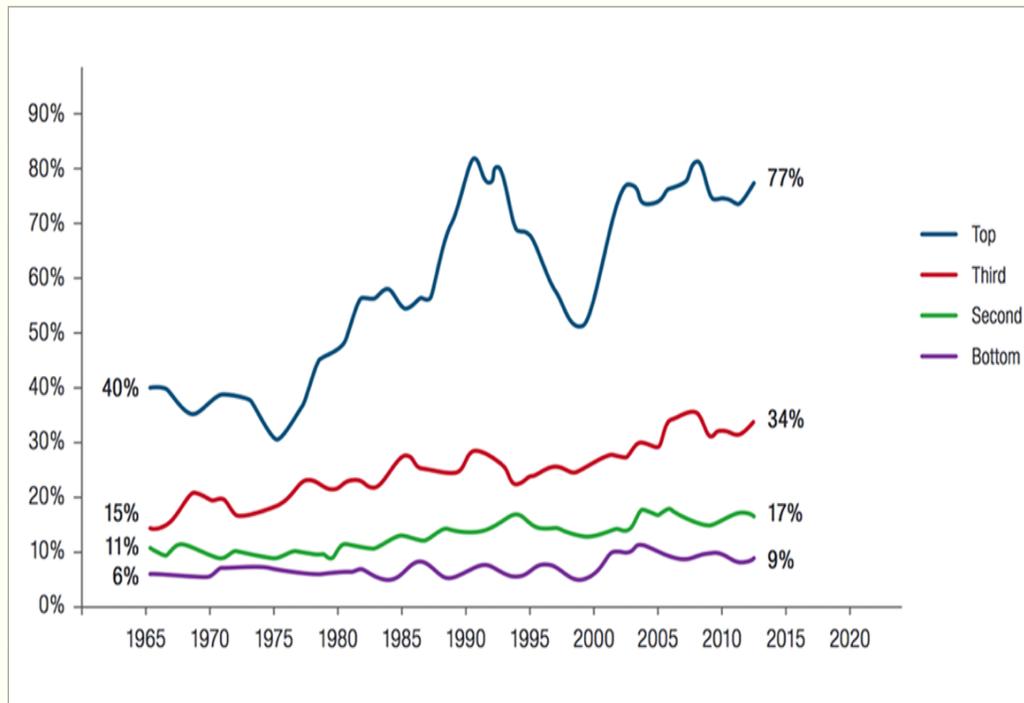
Where you went to college matters less than having no debt when it comes to satisfaction with life.



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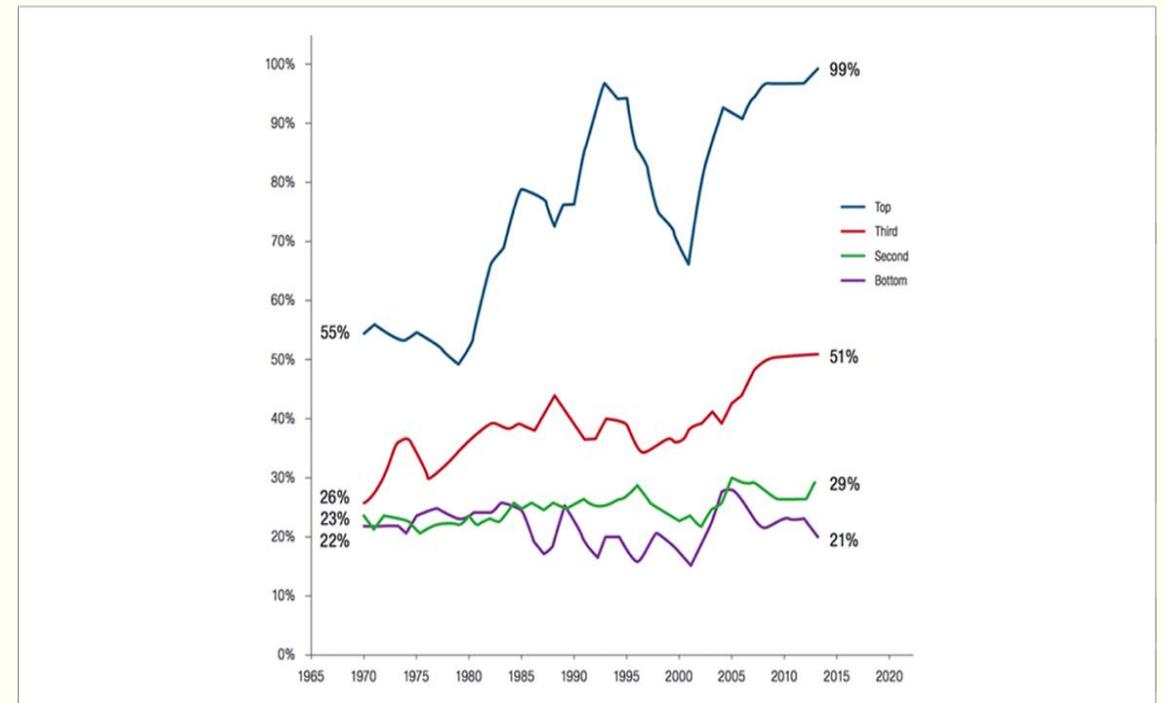
Current trends in college completion are reinforcing economic inequality rather than encouraging economic mobility

Bachelor's degree attainment by age 24 for all dependent family members by family income quartile: 1970-2013



In 2013 those from high-income families were 8 times more likely to obtain a bachelor's degree by age 24 than those from low-income families. In 1970 individuals from high-income families were 5 times more likely to obtain a bachelor's degree than those from low-income families.

Bachelor's attainment rates by age 24 for dependent family members who entered college by income quartile: 1970 to 2013



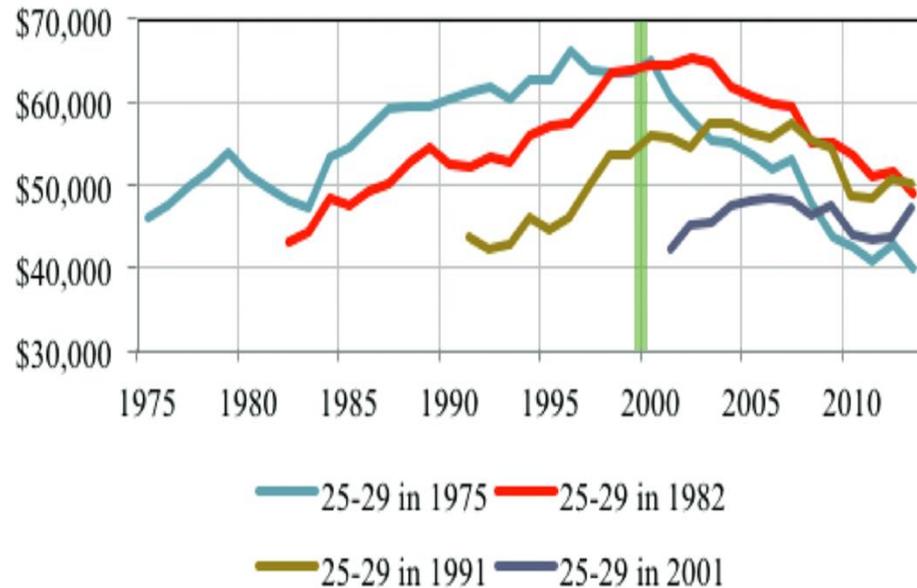
Very large (78 percentage points) gap in bachelor's degree attainment rates by age 24 between those entering college from the bottom income quartile and those entering the top income quartile. In 1970 the gap was 33 percentage points.

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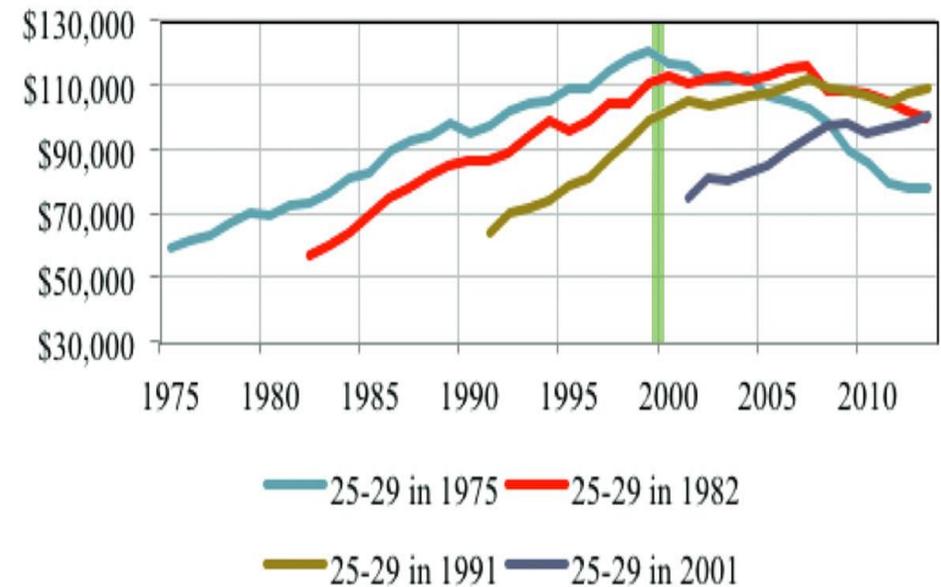
Source: Pell Institute. "Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States - 45 Year Trend Report" 2015

Up until 2000, future income was not dependent on college degree, but it has been ever since.

Path of median household income by age of householder:
High School Graduates



Path of median household income by age of householder:
College Graduates



That is why, in this century, a college education should be as free as a high school education was in the 20th century

Start with President Obama's America's College Promise plan

Build support for concept in communities and states by establishing Promise programs similar to Kalamazoo Promise

Result has been increased:

- HS GPA Rates
- HS Graduation Rates
- College Enrollment Rates
- College Completion (1st year) Rates

At rates greater than their non-public school peers

Now we need states to follow Tennessee's lead and establish their own Promise Programs

Goal: Establish National Promise Scholarships at federal level to pay instate tuition for public two and four year colleges

COLLEGE TUITION
should be free and
CAN BE FREE
in all 50 states.



Campaign for Free College Tuition