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Prospectus: Guided Pathways

Schools are based on “expert opinion” and off statistics that are formed by educational numbers. The educational system has started to view us more as numbers than actual people. That’s when the educational system becomes flawed. It’s when you have to teach individuals instead of a group. Education has become more of a business rather than an educational approach. “Of course, even though this is all about *students*, they don’t actually have a lot of power in any of these bills.” (Osorio) Guided pathways make it so students don’t have the freedom to pick their classes; they are set for them by the schools. It’s a system that when a student enters a college, they can pick their major and the college gives them a selected “path” of classes. Guided pathways make it so students are mindlessly going through their selected “path”. Guided pathways eliminated the social factors of school. It stops our social exploration. It makes students more uniform and it stops the diversity in schools. It doesn’t let them broaden their horizon.

“Guided pathways is a program formed in Washington D.C. in 2009; its a national nonprofit with a single mission: to work with states to significantly increase the number of Americans with quality career certificates or college degrees and to close attainment

gaps for traditionally under represented populations.” (Guided Pathways) “Six years after enrolling, less than four in 10 community college students have earned a degree” (Bailey). It’s failing because it’s running on an “in and out” system rather than a personalized method. In order for the education system to be fixed, schools need to start getting their students feedback. We can’t continue running the country on a system of numbers, we need to start viewing citizens as citizens.

Works Cited:

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