

THE TYRANNY OF THE MINORITY

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Up until the mid 19th century, America had robust traditions of home education, religious schooling, private schooling, apprenticeship, and parent-directed local schools. By contrast, government-funded (public) education is and always has been a purely UTOPIAN and SOCIALISTIC endeavor¹. Over its 180 year history, public education progressively enshrined the principle of *the supremacy of the dissenter*. For some, the principle began as an effort to maintain the illusion of religious “neutrality” in the classroom. For others, it was a conscious effort to secularize and drive religion from society.² What is this principle? And, how does it work? Listen to the words, given in a lecture to a women’s group in 1830, by Princeton Professor A. A. Hodge.

The tendency [of those who promote public education] is to hold that this system must be altogether secular. The atheistic doctrine is gaining currency, even among professed Christians and even among some bewildered Christian ministers, that an education provided by the common government should be entirely emptied of all religious character.

The Protestants object to the government schools being used for the purpose of inculcating the doctrines of the Catholic Church, and the Romanists object to the use of the Protestant version of the Bible and to the inculcation of the peculiar doctrines of the Protestant churches. The Jews protest against the schools being used to inculcate Christianity in any form, and the atheists and agnostics protest against any teaching that implies the existence and moral government of God.

It is capable of exact demonstration that if every party in the State has the right of excluding from the public schools whatever he does not believe to be true [or finds offensive], then he that believes most must give way to [be silenced by] him that believes least, and then he that believes least must give way to [be silenced by] him that believes absolutely nothing, no matter in how small a minority the atheists or the agnostics may be. It is self-evident that on this scheme, if it is consistently and persistently carried out in all parts of the country, the United States system of national popular education will be the most efficient and wide instrument for the propagation of Atheism [aka humanism] which the world has ever seen. [Brackets, bolding and underline mine.]

It is no coincidence that every form of socialism/communism has been built upon the secular philosophy of Atheism. While Professor Hodge’s observation was astute, I direct your attention to the bolded portion in the quote above. Note the dynamic. **Any DISSENTER, anyone who claims they are OFFENDED by what is either said or being done, is by default, allowed to rule and have their way!!** Sadly, this cultural dynamic has been engrained into the minds of tens of millions and thus the same dynamic seeks to dominate the public square. Do you now see why a single parent can dictate what happens in a classroom? Do you now understand why a small handful of radical environmentalists can obstruct projects designed to better the lives of millions of citizens? Do you see why a handful of secular citizens can agitate to strip Christmas celebrations of any and all religious meaning? It is the principle of *the supremacy of the dissenter* which is the source of a TYRANNY OF THE MINORITY!

¹ [Education: Free and Compulsory, Murray N. Rothbard,](#)

² [The Secular Revolution: Power, Interests, and Conflict in the Secularization of American Public Life,](#) ed. Christian Smith.