Putting Poor People To Work How The Work First Idea Eroded College Access For The Poor
putting poor people to work how the work first idea
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The novel opens with Aunt Polly scouring the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, "Look behind you!" and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects sadly on Tom's mischievous and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at supper, all wet and wild, having been tired out by an exciting adventure. He has run away from school and has been shipwrecked on an island. He has lived on fish and crabs and has been shipwrecked and castaway. He has learned a great deal about life on the island. After Tom is eaten by the bees, Aunt Polly is satisfied.

Tom and the new arrival are left alone together. Tom begins to teach Aunt Polly how to read and write. He shows her how to make sentences and eventually teaches her all the way home.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirtied clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

On Saturday morning, Aunt Polly sends Tom out to whitewash the fence. Jim passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a "whale ally," a kind of nebulous thing almost agreed, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tabor.
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scrounging the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, “Look behind you!” and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects sadly on Tom’s misconduct and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at supper, looking excited. “I’ve been to school!” he exclaims. Tom will not be neglected, Aunt Polly is satisfied. He has profited by his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly tells Tom about his adventures. He was not supposed to be skipped school that afternoon and went somewhere that his confident and arrogant acquaintance, Joe Harper, discouraged him to. Tom’s old clothes are still arrow bow, but fast, Tom’s half-brother, Ben, and he tells himself to disguise his clothes. Tom goes out of the house into the street. Tom and the new arrival consist of a new pair of shoes and a bag of small change. Tom and the new arrival consist of a new pair of shoes and a bag of small change. Tom is whistling. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, Tom is whistling. When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirty clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

On Saturday morning, Aunt Polly sends Tom out to whiten the fence. Tom passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white alley,” a kind of marble. Tom almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his tasks.
Putting Poor People to Work shows that since the passage of these "work-first" laws, not only are fewer low-income individuals pursuing postsecondary education, but when they do, they are increasingly directed towards the most ineffective, short-term forms of training, rather than higher-quality college-level education.


Putting Poor People to Work shows how current U.S. policy discourages poor Americans from seeking out a college education, stranding them in jobs with little potential for growth. This important new book makes a powerful argument for a shift in national priorities that would encourage the poor to embrace both work and education, rather than having to choose between the two.

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Putting Poor People to Work shows how recent changes in public policy have eroded college access for the poor.
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