

***American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview. Short Film:
“There Is No Role for the Government in Education” (10–12 Minutes)***

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

Goal

In this short (6:26) film, James Tooley explains how government involvement in education is unnecessary and harmful

Instructions

1. Play the short film above here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OarzZ8IfQQ4>
2. Discuss as a class by asking for volunteers for their thoughts.

Debrief Questions

1. How was education provided for the poor before government involved itself in education?
Churches, charitable organizations, and foundations all chipped in to provide education for anyone who needed and wanted it.
2. For what reason does Tooley say that the government began involving itself in education?
Not because it was necessary (see Question #1), but because it wanted control over the populace and the curriculum.
3. What does Tooley point out in even poverty-stricken areas of the world like Nigeria and India and education?
The private sector takes care of education needs even in those areas by offering low-cost education, and this is especially popular, since parents in many areas of the world (including your parents, students!) avoid government-run education.
4. What does the fact that these organizations, along with the support of parents, prove about government-run education?
It is not needed. Even though government education officials insist that it is necessary for “equality,” “justice,” or “an educated workforce,” the reality is that it is totally unnecessary.