



# Public Ed Dread: How Wishful Thinking and Good Intentions Reformed Academics Right Out of Our Public Schools

*Bridgette Wallis*

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*Public Ed Dread: How Wishful Thinking and Good Intentions Reformed Academics Right Out of Our Public Schools* is a must-read for concerned parents, homeschoolers, grassroots reformers, and concerned citizens alike trying to make sense of American public education.

This book was written by a teacher with years of experience in the system. The author taught in a low-income, Title I failing school in California where she experienced the politics of whole language and No Child Left Behind. She also taught in a middle-class, suburban school where she witnessed the effects of the accountability reform movement on students. Weaved throughout the book are the author's personal experiences from her time teaching in polar opposite public schools.

The author's unique perspective on public education in action is eye-opening and comprehensive. It shows that no schools are safe from the perils of the de-emphasis on academics. This book provides the background necessary to understand how our public schools came to embrace the non-academic values it does now.

*Public Ed Dread* explains the evolution of the methods, objectives, and policies of public education through the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: The School of Wishful Thinking and Magic Bullets
- Chapter 2: Dumbed Down But Equal
- Chapter 3: The New 3 Rs-Race, Class, Gender, & Social Justice
- Chapter 4: Fuzzy Thinking
- Chapter 5: An Education in Cooperation?
- Chapter 6: Pimping Out Public Education for Power and Profit
- Chapter 7: End the Dread

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