

Sample Authorship Speech

Quote: “All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.” - Aristotle

Thesis: The federal government should not have the obligation to provide financial aid to those who are unable to pay tuition costs because of their other numerous financial obligations.

- Federal government already provides need based financial aid for higher education
- Higher Education Act of 1965- President Lyndon Johnson’s bill in order to allow more widespread opportunities to receive a higher education and aid the betterment of universities

Contention 1: Government organizations have proven to be relatively ineffective.

- “During the Bush Administration, however, funding shortfalls have left the Pell Grant program with a debt of \$3.7 billion, nearly a third of its estimated costs in the current academic year.” stated in Failure to Increase Pell Grants Affects Thousands of Students from California’s 30th Congressional District by Henry Waxman Department of Education, *FY 2005 ED Budget Summary and Background Information* (Feb. 2004).
- Grants:
 - o Pell Grant
 - o Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
 - o Academic Competitiveness Grant
 - o Federal Work Study program
 - o Stafford Loan
 - o PLUS Loan
 - o Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Contention 2: There already exist many institutions that provide financial aid.

- Princeton does not require a household income in order to provide aid
- There are many organization that give out scholarships- Howard Hughes Medical Institute gave out \$98,000 worth

Contention 3: The government already has other financial obligations that require more attention.

- Federal debt is close to \$11 trillion
- US has a number of other concerns including education, foreign issues etc.

Conclusion: Given the US’s current economic situation and the number of issues with which it has to deal and the number of previously existing financial aid institutions, it is not a priority of the government to provide aid for higher education.