

# Education

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is the goal of true education.”

We must develop and support young people who are educated in the King tradition – young people with character and discernment. We cannot do this work without a consciousness of people who are committed to breaking down educational barriers, closing the achievement gap, improving the quality of schools and access to education. But while other countries are increasing their commitment to education, the United States is cutting back.

Said King, “The most dangerous criminal may be the man (person) gifted with reason, but no morals.” How moral is it to consign mil-

lions to low wages, refusing, even, to increase the minimum wage. How moral is it to cut food stamps and jobs programs in the name of

and access to housing should not be bargained over, but automatically given. Too many of our legislators are educated, but lack

The American School Counselors says that many states mandate a ratio of between 500 and 750 students per counselor.

tucky. Unless parents or civic organizations are willing to step up, some students face major barriers to college attendance and career preparation.

President Obama says he wants the US to be a leader in world education. Others could care less about the education of too many students. Those who fail to care about the next generation are, in Dr. King’s words, “dangerous criminals.”

Let’s celebrate the King holiday with a commitment to close the achievement gap and to improve the quality of education in our nation.

## While other countries are increasing their commitment to education, the United States is cutting back

economic growth, although many are still suffering? The art and science of politics is about compromise, but how do we compromise with people’s lives and well-being?

There ought to be a floor under which no citizen is allowed to fall. Wages, health care, education,

morals.

Budget cuts have made education less obtainable than ever. While many parents hire coaches to help their children write essays and complete their college applications, working class parents don’t have the money to do this kind of hiring.

Even at the lower number, a counselor can spend just an hour per student per semester, hardly enough to get advice about college attendance, the filling out of applications, and other matters. Some states have no mandate at all. They include (but are not limited to) Florida, Illinois, Kansas, and Ken-

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## Monday

## January 19, 2015

## 8:30-10:30 a.m.

## Oregon Convention Center

777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Portland, OR 97232

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