

11-5-2014

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Citation

Sharp, Shelby, "Is This Education Worth It?" (2014). *English 110: Expository Writing*. Paper 6.
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Is This Education Worth it?

Shelby Sharp

Growing up, college seemed to be a person's one way ticket to success. Neither of my parents went to college so I was able to acknowledge the difficulties for a person who never obtained a degree. I was constantly reminded that as long as I went and got a college education I wouldn't have to struggle the way they had. So, here I am enrolled in college and furthering my education, but is success really promised to me like I thought it was?

We have the pressures to get into college, get good grades, graduate, and get a decent job. Sounds easy right? Something I guess we never really considered before was if the degree we get will actually help us get a job. Today's economy doesn't give the best opportunities for us students to find a job straight out of college and that 'success' we imagined for ourselves isn't exactly promised anymore. We are left to go through college on the mindset that "maybe" and "hopefully" our college education will help us in the real world. Not only do some of us worry that we may not be able to find a job, but what do we do when we don't? How will we pay all these loans we took out for this education that might not even benefit us? How will we support ourselves on a minimum wage job? We can't help but contemplate if this education will truly be worth it in the long run.

It seems to be a grim reality that we students are up against right now and I don't think we are entirely sure what to do about it. We are given multiple possibilities for our future and we are expected to make a decision and stick with it. We are stuck between whether or not this education is worth the investment or if we would be better off jumping into a job right after high

school. Perhaps, we have to just deal with the “maybes” and hope that the choices we make will benefit us eventually.