

Our Children Can Do Better

The U.S. is now the only industrialized nation where children are less likely than their parents to graduate from high school. New Mexico has the best graduation rate of 85%; nationally, the number is 71%. (1 in 4 kids drop out nationally.)

This is a nationwide disaster, and parents need to address this crisis expeditiously. I dropped out in the 10th grade; I went to prison that same year. Employment such as construction and plumbing demand rock-solid mathematics: the instrumentals of reason, and reading skills to understand directives and specialized handbooks. So, it's hard to get a job without a diploma.

Our children can do better if parents start to do better. Devon Smith, 14, was shot to death in Charlotte N.C., in July 2007. Angelo McKenzy Lee, 27, was shot to death in Charlotte, N.C., this year, in front of his six (6) year old daughter while preparing her to walk to the school bus stop. The only way to stop this senseless killing is for parents to participate in their children's education.

School systems are struggling; there are very little resources or programs to keep kids in school.

Parents must do better before our children can do better.

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Prison."

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