

Parents Might Be the Biggest Obstacle to Improving Education

It's commonplace today to regard teachers' unions as the main roadblock to improving America's education system.

But perhaps the biggest obstacle to changing the education system is not the unions, but parents.

According to Gallup, Americans' confidence in the public schools has been declining for some time (in the 2015 poll, 31% of Americans expressed confidence in the schools):



However, when Gallup polls parents, three in four express satisfaction with *their* child's education:



As many of you well know, the [same phenomenon exists](#) when it comes to Congress. The majority of people disapprove of Congress in general, but are satisfied with their own congressional representative.

Currently, [about 90 percent](#) of U.S. K-12 students attend a public school. If three-fourths of parents are still satisfied with the services being provided by these schools, chances are that a dramatic reform of the education system is not going to happen anytime in the near future.