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Anti-Intellectualism casts shadow over higher ed.

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In addition to all of the issues affecting higher education, like the present struggle to acquire funding, diminishing enrollments, instability, and the like, now is the time to recognize the biggest problem: anti-intellectualism.

Anti-intellectualism is defined as a negative attitude toward intellectual pursuits; whether in the form of education or scholarly activities and has become a problem in many of their practitioners, such as college professors and students.

Anti-intellectualism has been around for a long time and has been predicted by many regimes, particularly authoritarian ones. From Stalinism to Marx’s “Cultural Revolution” and Cambodia’s Pol Pot on the left, to fascist regimes like Mussolini, Hitler’s and Franco’s on the right, this movement has extended itself into violent connotations to the point that writers, artists, college professors, or just people wearing glasses – as seen with a people of a level with those from impoverished regimes.

In timid terms in democratic societies like ours, intellectualism is being attacked verbally, mostly by celebrities, but also by intellectuals who are “elitists” and are therefore detached from people everyday. The movement is also a tool of anti-intellectualism. In a blinker form it questions other “intellectuals” who have opposite points of view from their surroundings.

Sometimes conservative critics in this country have been held as a preparative term aimed at students of institutions of higher education.

Dr. Almedoro Romero Jr. Letters from Academia

Growing up in a community surrounded by the problems of juvenile delinquency, I often thought I could be the one to make a difference in the lives of these youngsters. I thought that my knowledge of the facts and the law would be enough to turn them around. I was wrong.

At the time when there were more and more delinquents, I thought that I could be the one to change them. I thought that I could be the one to give them a second chance. I was wrong.

In any case, all of them practice a demonization of others. They blame society, the government, the courts, the schools, and the police for their problems. They believe that they are the victims of a的社会system and that the government is not doing enough to help them.

That is why they are so members of an elite or a special group, and that faculty themselves and their institutions become up against the rest of the society.

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