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Poem Excerpt

The education system crippling the youth,
telling age-old lies
like Columbus discovered "America,"
the slavery practiced in Africa was the same practiced here,
and slavery and racism are only issues of the past
that have no relevance today.

Who really gets educated, do the poor and not so well off
get the same education that someone with more money does?

It's time to reeducate the "miseducated,"
starting with the highest officials
in the totem pole of education.
Teaching them 1st,
money is not the solution to all problems,
and 2nd,
the problems can't be swept under the rug.
And then, letting them know that it's hard to learn,
let alone concentrate
when you fear coming to school
because you never know,
what's going to,
fall apart,
burn,
or leak today.
Students remaining in fear,
as they never know when their dilapidated building may fall down.

As Sonny in "A Bronx Tale" told C,
"you got to get 2 educations,"

and the education that America scrutinizes the most
is not worth sometimes the paper they print the diplomas on,
passing students because they're athletes
or rich
or their parents are influential in the school and community.
Sad to see that even today,
there are people graduating from high school and college
who can't read past a 2nd grade level.
Makes me wonder,
do our teachers and professors really make the grade?
If a teacher can't teach,
does not understand the students in his or her class,
and fails to realize that students learn differently,
how can all students learn?
Isn't that the goal, for all students to learn?

America's colleges
turned into feeding frenzies
for Fortune 500 companies,
credit card companies, and cell phone distributors,
hoping to make money off our innocence
and our desire to become independent,
but mostly from our schools' generosity
in selling our personal and private information.
We have Fortune 500 companies
running our School Boards,
tuition increasing all over the "United States,"
yet they're hoping to attract more people of color
to reach the quotas
they couldn't reach when the tuition was lower.
Now they have high hopes
or at least high tuitions
hoping to attraction their biggest enrollment yet.
C'mon get real.
Can the quality of your education or school
really be determined by the price tag
of your four or five-year college package?

How can what I learn be priced
or sold to the highest bidder?

Who's to say, the only learning
you can do is in the classroom?

It's time for the truth to come out,
time for us find out the true purpose of our education system
and to come to grips with why the "education system" is failing.
Is there not something wrong with turning students into robots,
spitting out verbatim from our professor or teacher
who wrote the textbook for the class?
Why is it now considered wrong for students to express themselves
or think outside of the box in the classroom?
Why are we limited to only talking about what is in the book
or dealing with subjects only within the curriculum,
even when there are other topics that need to be
and should be addressed?