SHEEO 2022 HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY CONFERENCE

# **HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE** PROMISE OF AN INCLUSIVE **AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY**

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### **ROADMAP FOR TALK**

- The Value of Higher Education for Expanding Equal Opportunity
- Federal HE Policy and the Fight for Equal Opportunity in the United States
- Lessons for Policymakers

# THE VALUE OF HIGHER EDUCATION



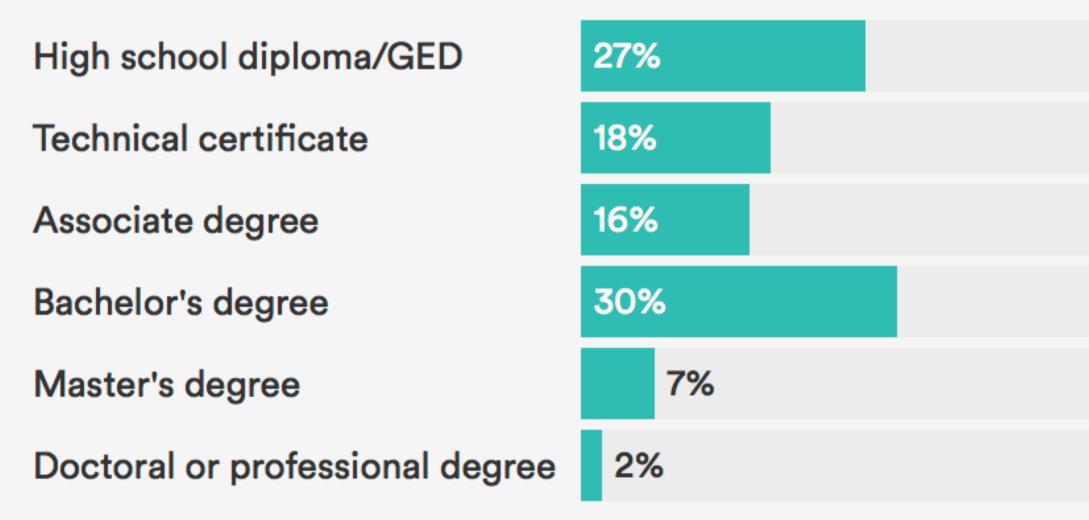
Brit.





### New America Survey Minimum level of education needed to ensure financial security for Americans (n=1,517)

What is the minimum level of education that you believe your immediate or close family members need to complete to ensure financial security?



Source: Fishman, Nguyen, Newhouse, "Varying Degrees" New America, 2022

### New America Survey

### How much do you agree or disagree that education beyond high school offers a good investment for the student? (n=1,517) Strongly/somewhat agree (%) Strongly/somewhat disagree (%) Don't know/skipped (%) All adults 76% 24% Note: The numbers in this figure and the narrative may not match due to rounding. In case of mismatch, please refer to the narrative.

Source: Varying Degrees 2022 • Get the data • Download image

### **NEW AMERICA**

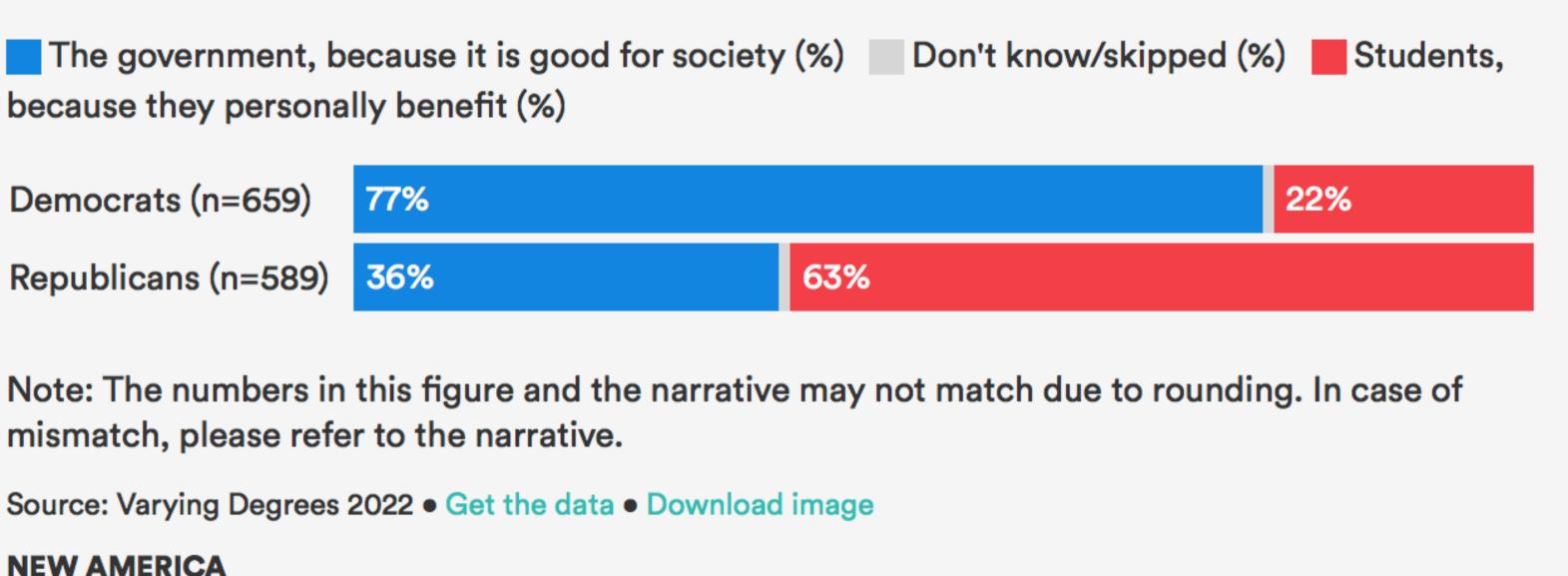
Source: Fishman, Nguyen, Newhouse, "Varying Degrees" New America, 2022

### New America Survey Who should be responsible for funding higher education? By party identification:

because they personally benefit (%)

Democrats (n=659)

Republicans (n=589)



mismatch, please refer to the narrative.

Source: Varying Degrees 2022 • Get the data • Download image

**NEW AMERICA** 

Source: Fishman, Nguyen, Newhouse, "Varying Degrees" New America, 2022

# HIGHER EDUCATION AND EQUITY?



### **HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY AND EQUITY**

### What is the value of higher education for expanding equal opportunity in the United States?

### What role have policymakers played in promoting equity through higher education?



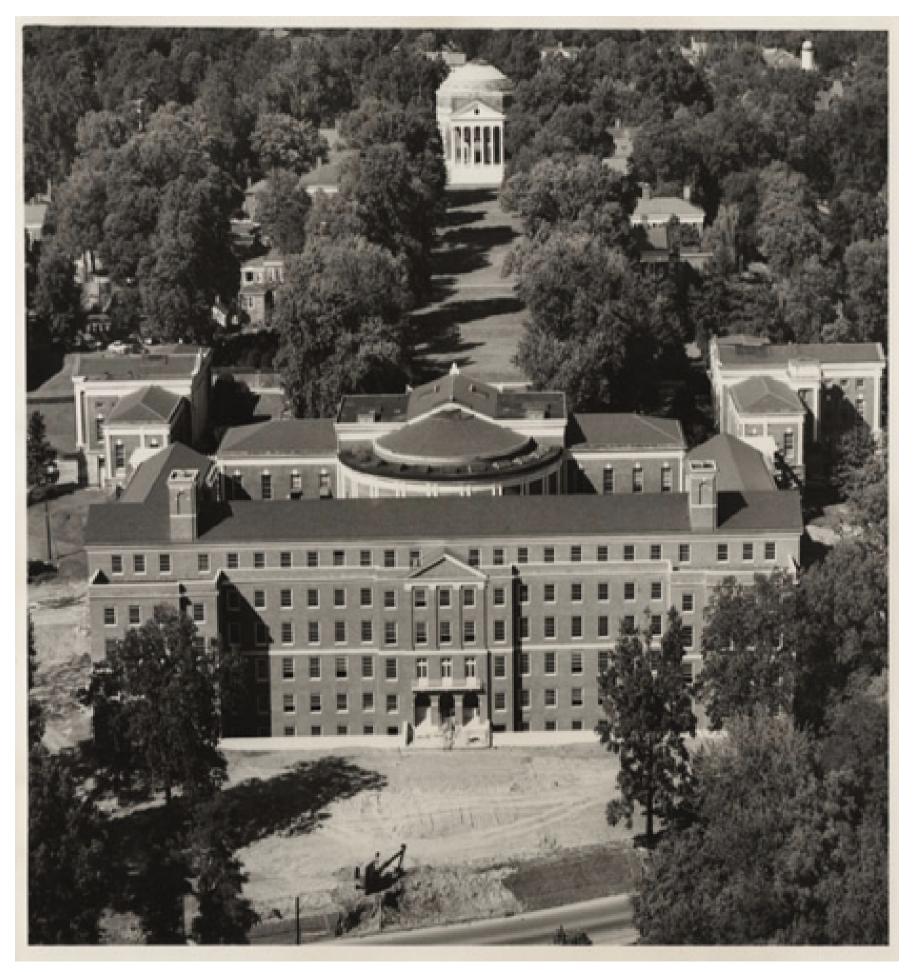




### Marvella Hearn



### **Marvella Hearn**





### The University of Virginia



# "Women need not apply."



# **History of Gender Discrimination in U.S. Higher Ed**

- Gender quotas
  - Fierce competition for limited seats
- Outright exclusion of women
- Limited access to private funding
- Unequal treatment on campus Discrimination against pregnant and parenting students Limited access to programming, resources, and honors  $\bigcirc$ • Discrimination against women faculty

# **Education and Political Participation**

Education provides **information and skills** 

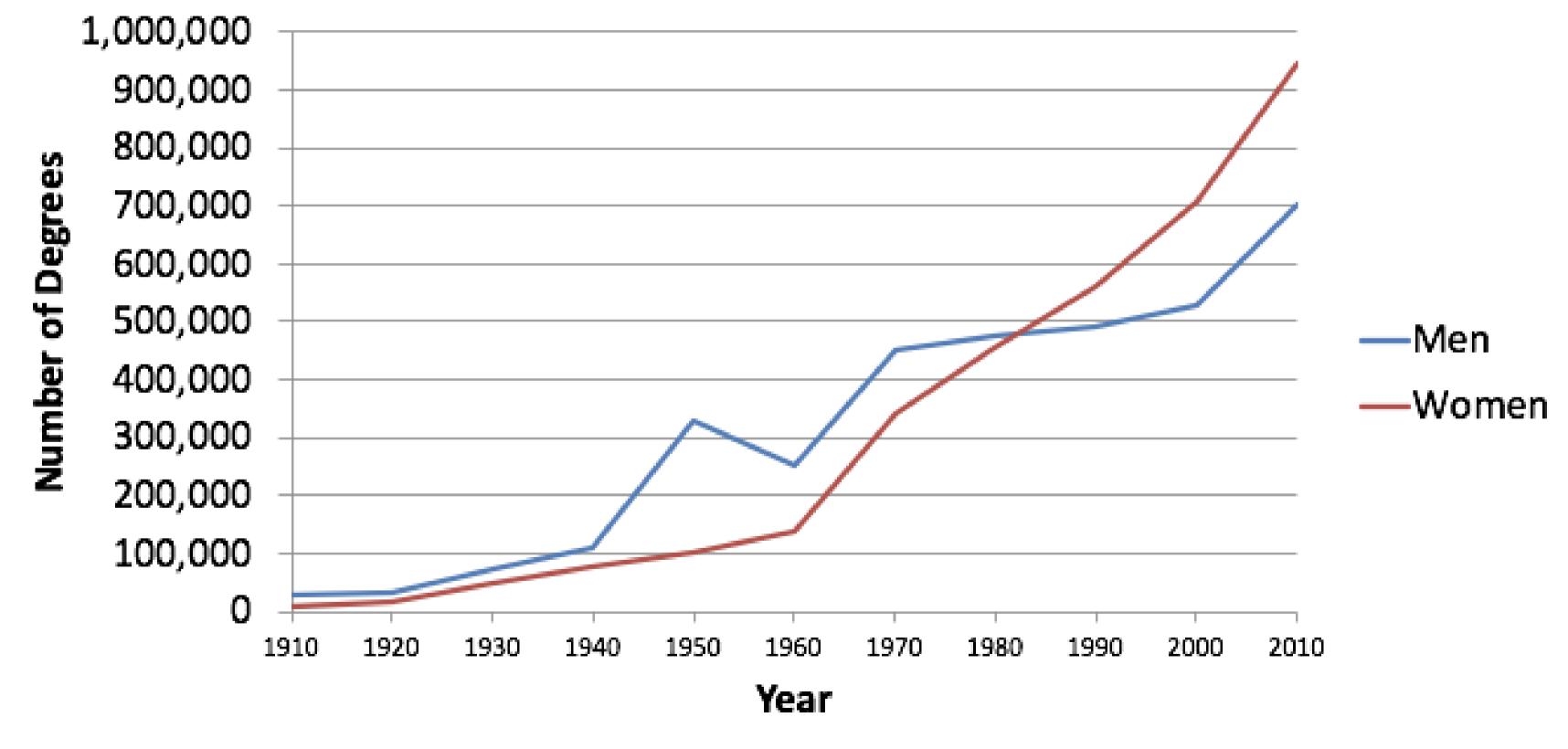
• Access to **civic skills** like attending, planning, or chairing a meeting; public speaking; fundraising.

Education can promote a heightened sense of **civic duty** that facilitate participation.

Educational attainment is a **determinant of SES**, which shapes the extent to which Americans participate in politics.

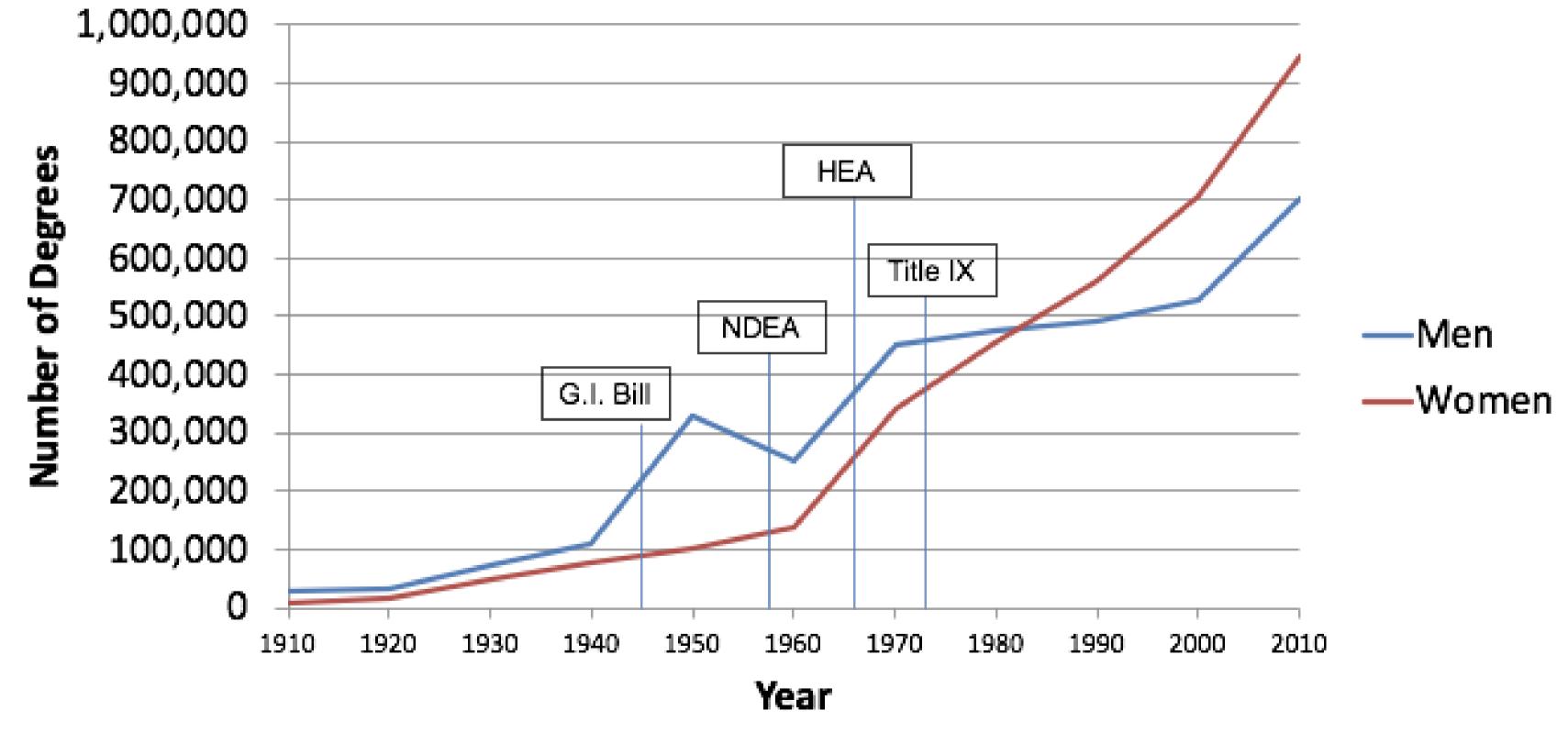
Those with more education are more likely to be **mobilized** by interest groups, candidates, and other activists.

### Bachelor's Degrees Conferred in the U.S. by Gender, 1910-2010



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics

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# Landmark Higher Ed Policies

- The National Defense Education Act of 1958
- The Higher Education Act of 1965
- Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments



 Landmark HE policies that did a great deal for women emerged even though...

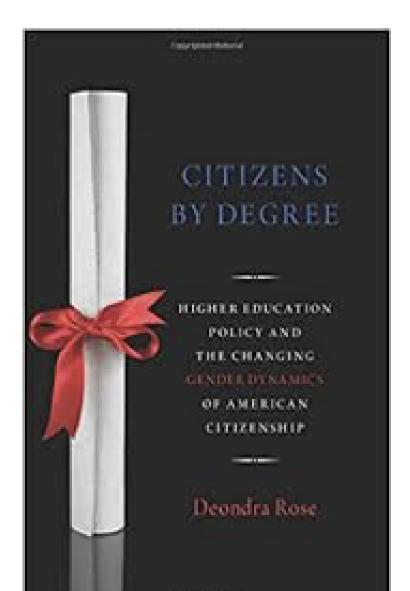
 They were dramatic departures from higher education AND social policy precedents

Women were marginalized politically

# **Fighting Sex Discrimination**

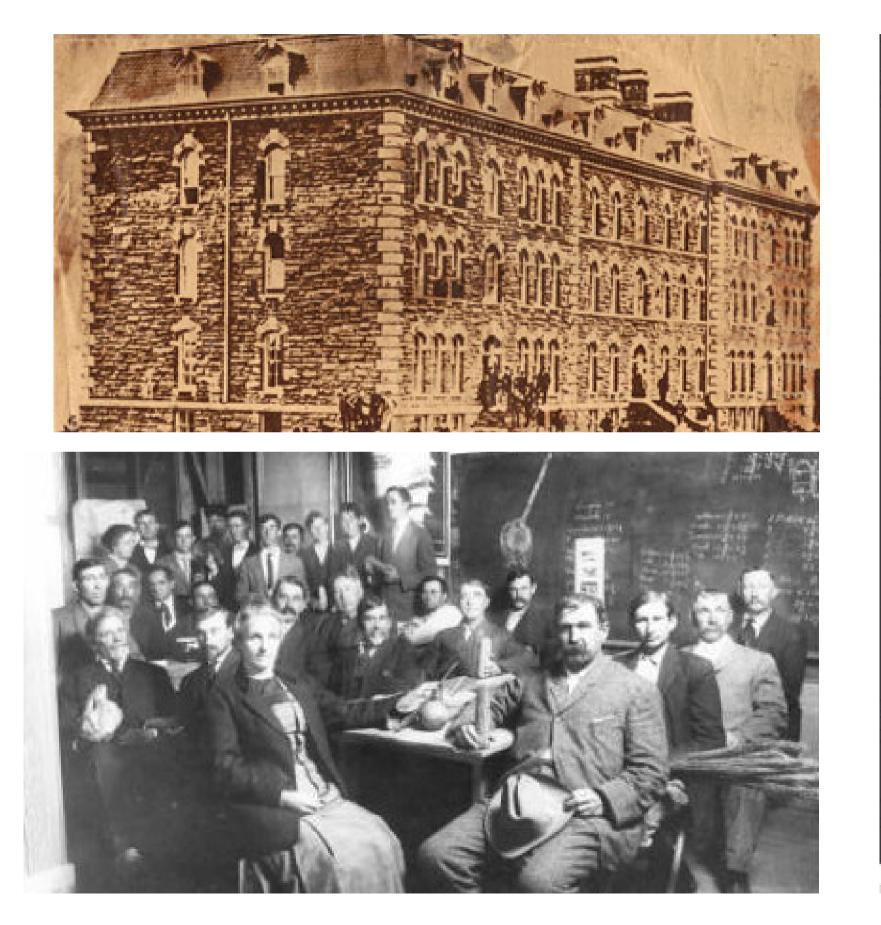
# A "One-Two" Punch

- First Punch: Redistributive Policy
  - Financial Aid under the 1958 National Defense Education Act and the 1965 Higher Education Act
    - Student Loans
    - Pell Grants
    - Work Study
- Second Punch: Regulatory Policy
  - Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments



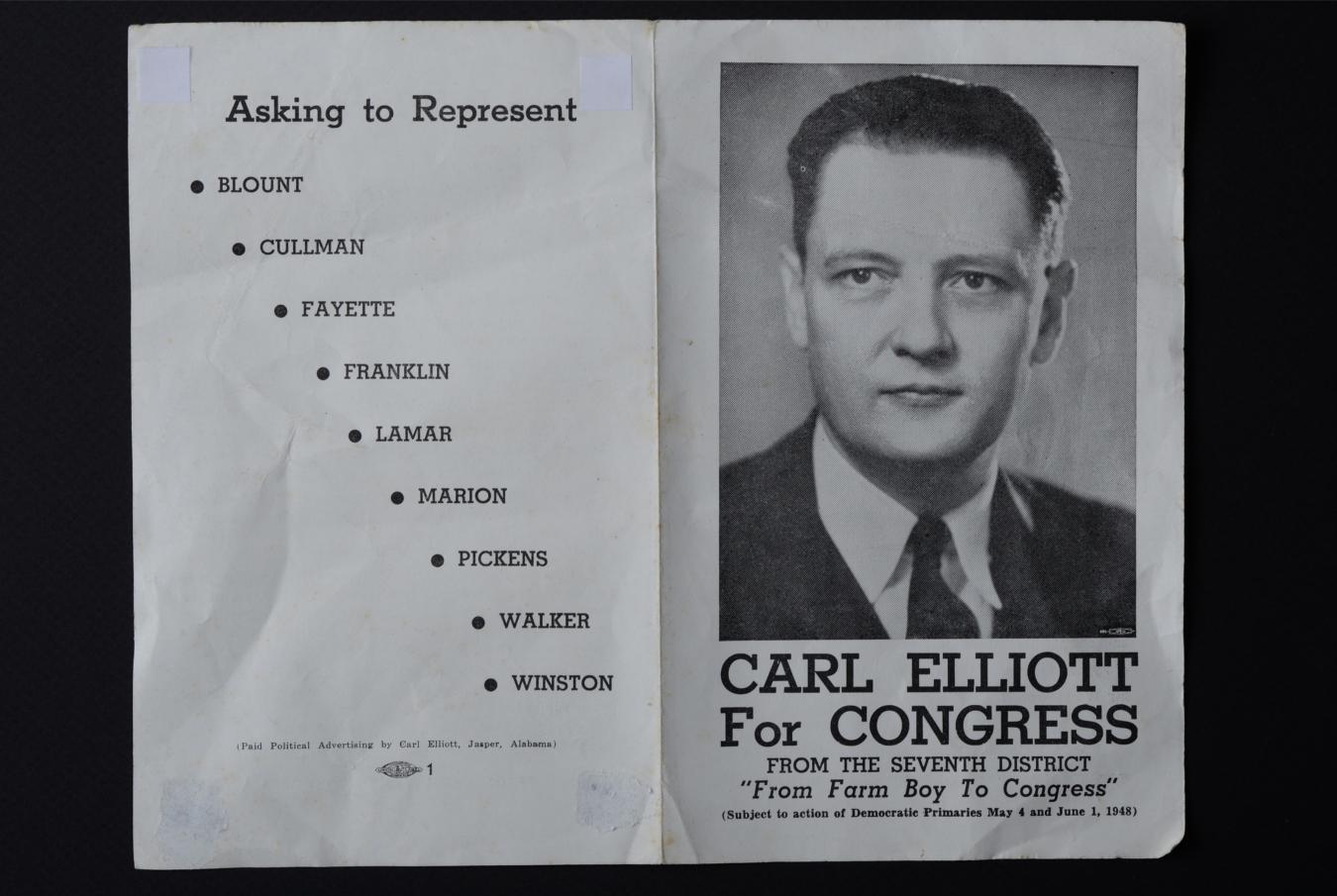
# THE NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION ACT (NDEA), 1958

### HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY PRECEDENTS...

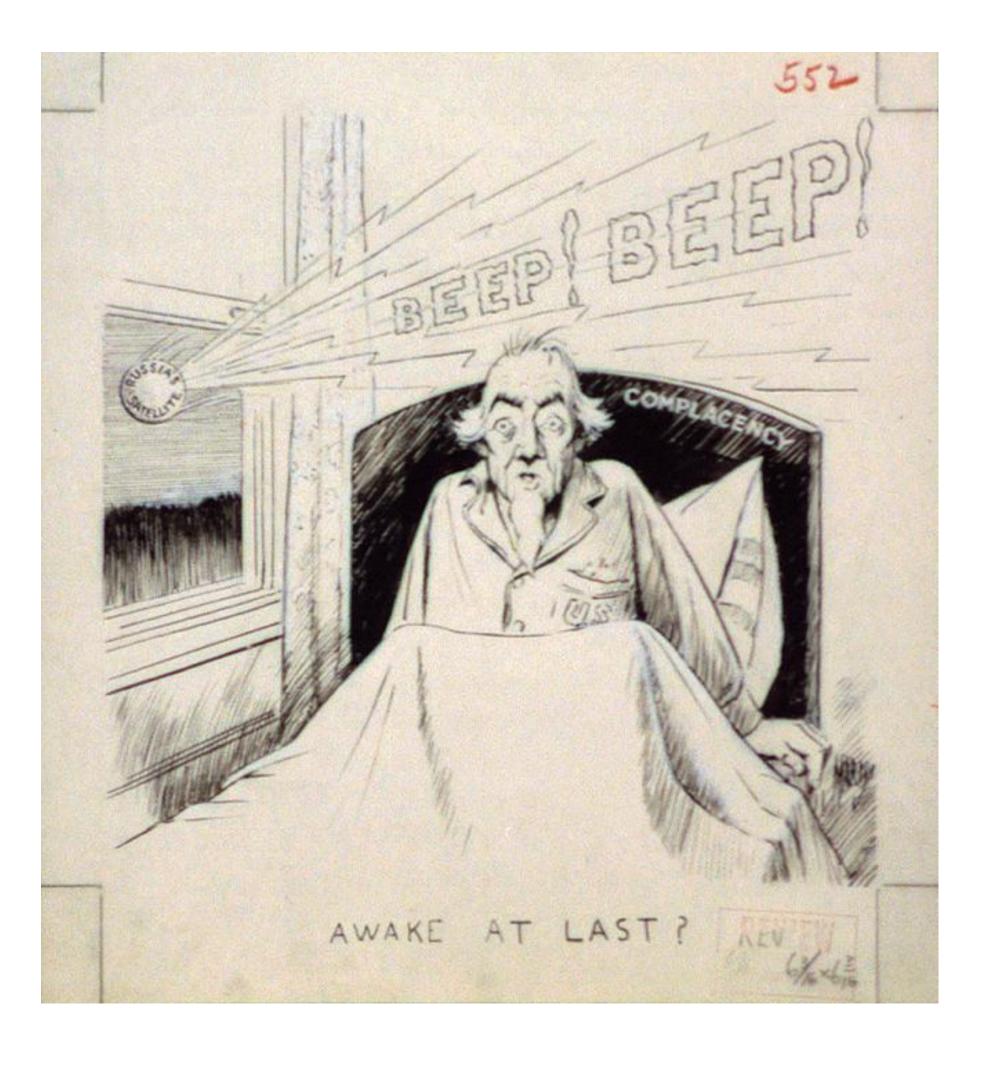




### CARL ELLIOTT (D-AL)



# **SPUTNIK: A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY**



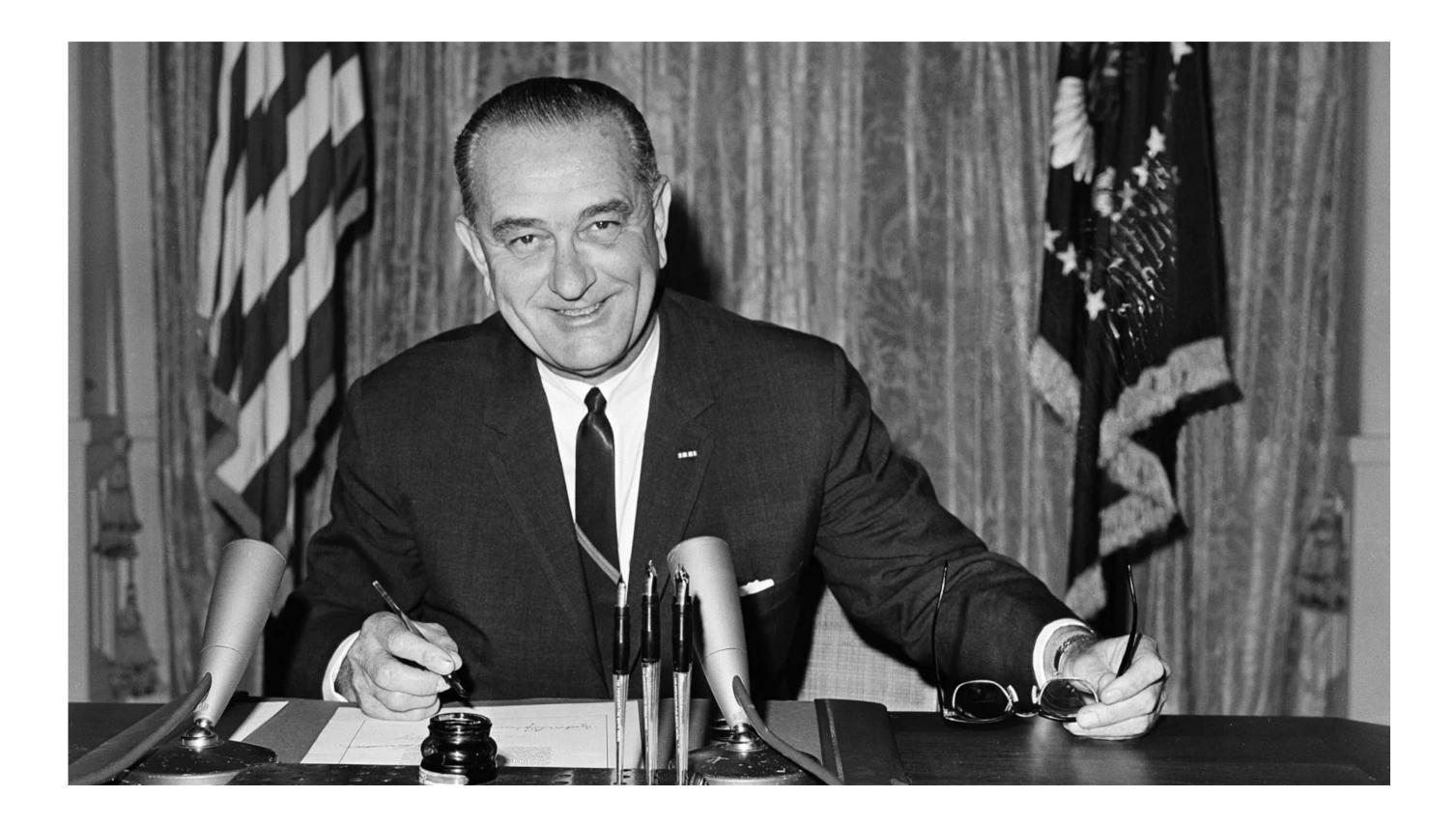
# ACCIDENTAL EGALITARIANISM?



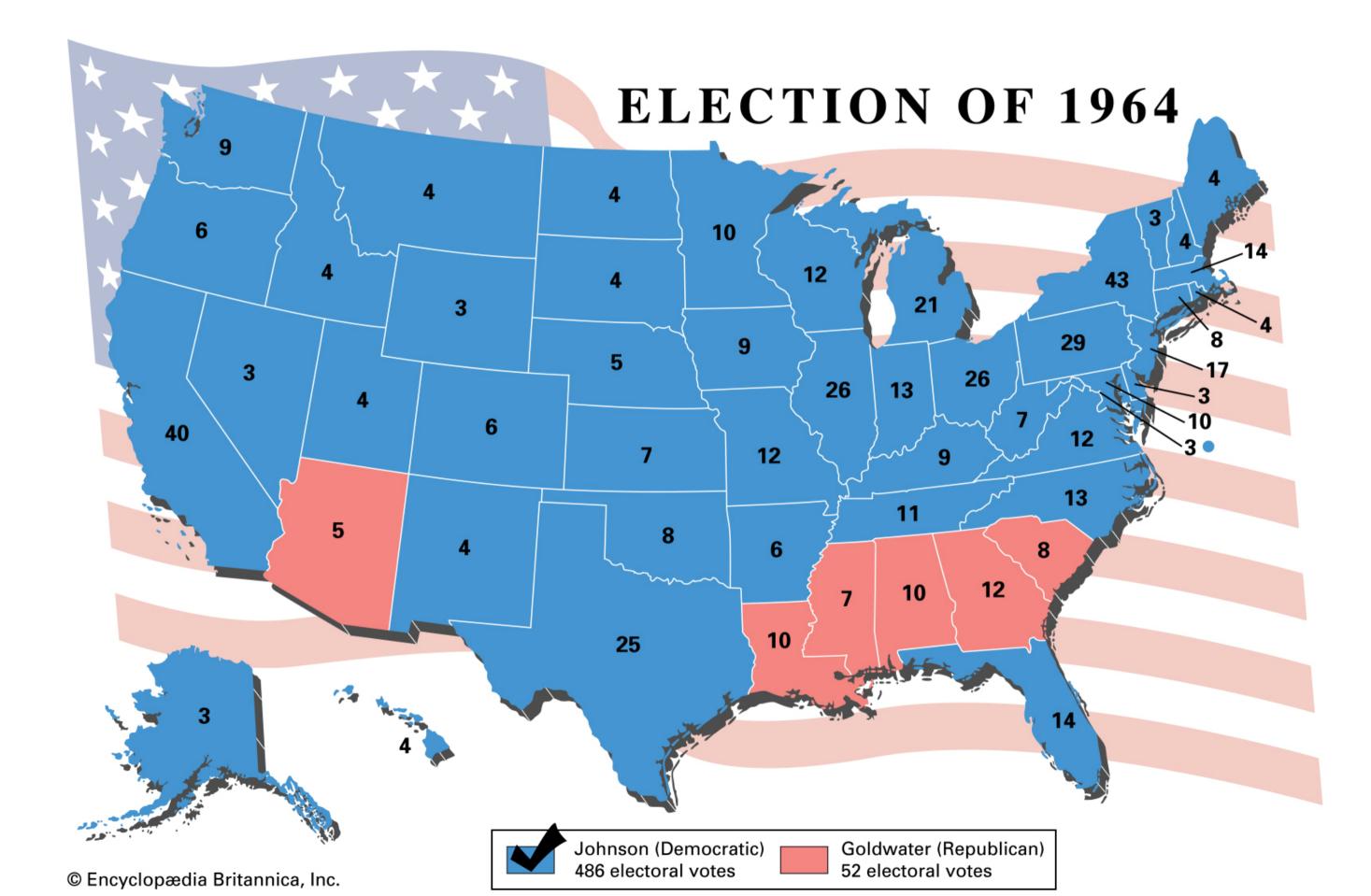
# THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT (HEA), 1965



### **LBJ AND THE GREAT SOCIETY**



### A NEW POLITICAL LANDSCAPE



## INCREASING WOMEN'S ACCESS TO COLLEGE BY INCREASING AFFORDABILITY











**Dr. Bunny Sandler** "The Godmother of Title IX" Activist with the Women's Equity Action League (WEAL)







Dr. Bunny Sandler "The Godmother of Title IX" Activist with the Women's Equity Action League (WEAL)



# Congresswoman Edith Green (D-OR) "The Mother of Title IX"



### Marvella Hern





### Marvella Hern Bayh



### SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS ON SEX DISCRIMINATION







### **POLICY DESIGN: REGULATION**

### 1964 Civil Rights Act Title VI—Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs Sec. 601.

"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

### **POLICY DESIGN: REGULATION**

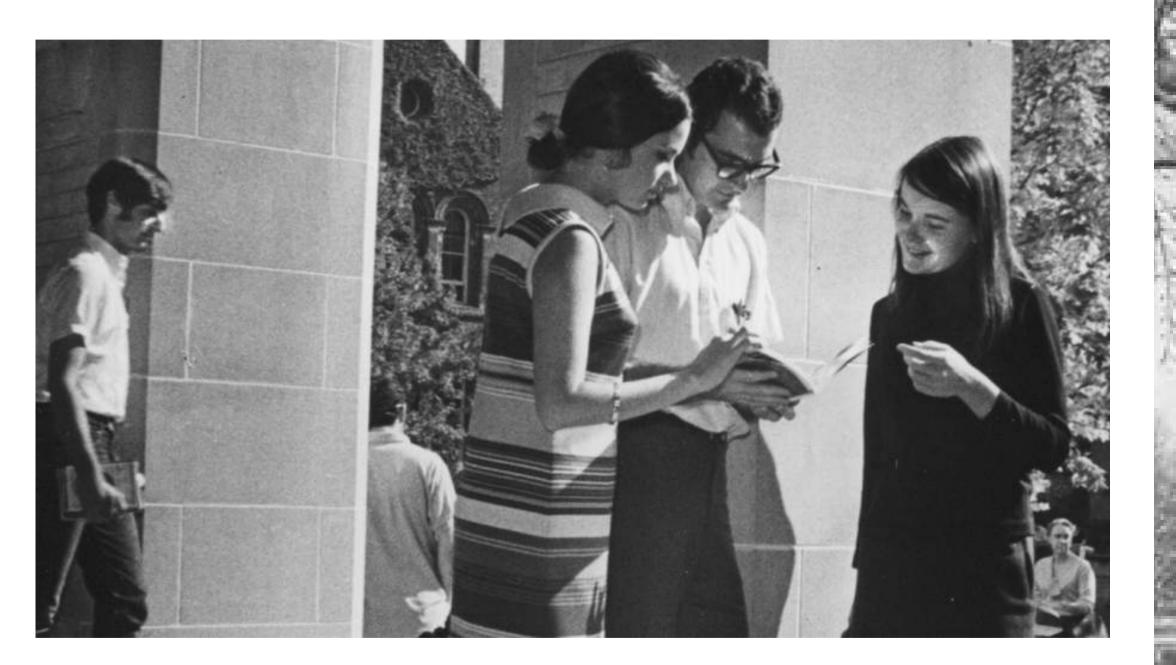
# **1972 Education Amendments**

Title IX—Prohibits Sex Discrimination in Federally Assisted Education Programs Sec. 901.

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of <u>sex</u>, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any <u>education</u> program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

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### **CARROTS...AND STICKS**







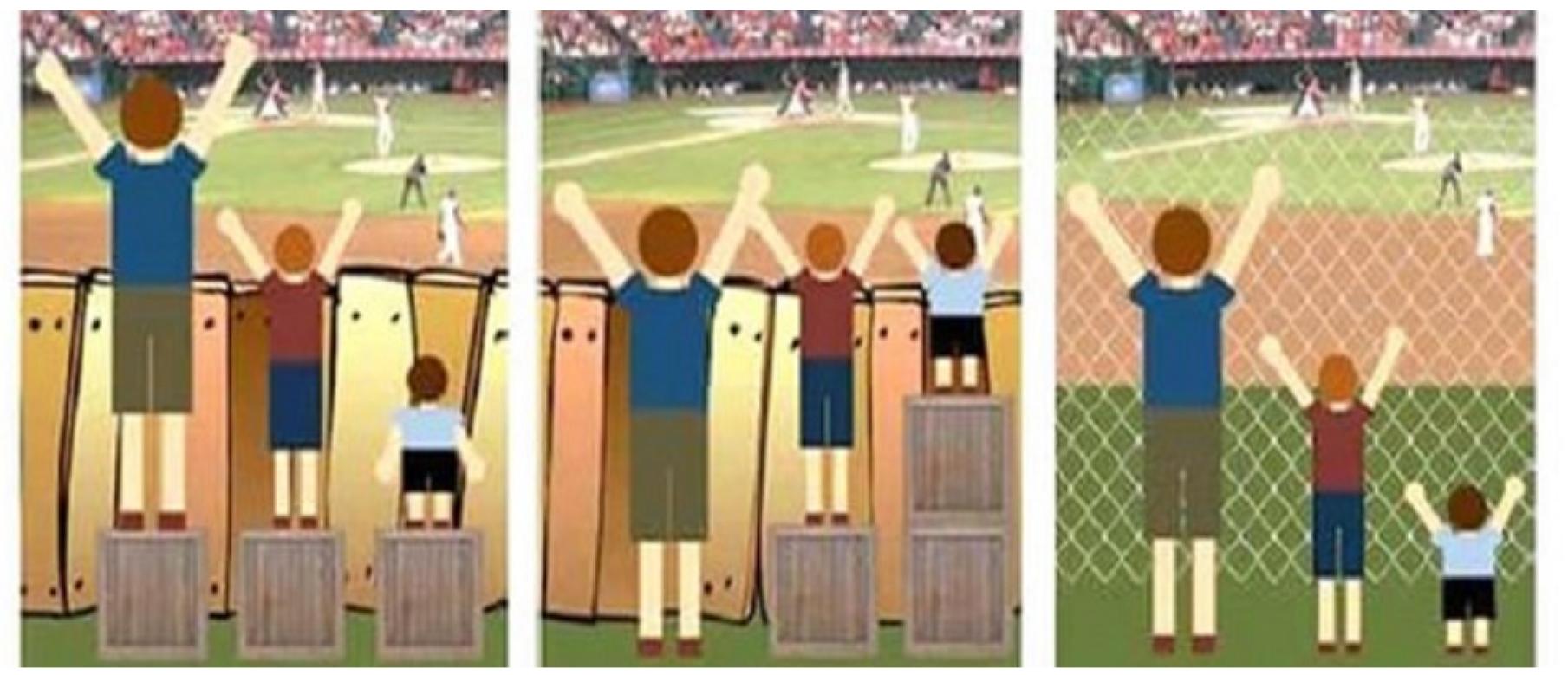
# LESSONS FOR POLICYMAKERS

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# PRIORITIES FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY Policymakers

# What should lawmakers prioritize if they want to help actualize the promise of an inclusive and equitable society in the 21st century?



### Equality



### Justice

# PRIORITIES FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY POLICYMAKERS

1. Note the value of **strategic policy design** to achieve substantial change:

- Watching for windows of opportunity
- Building on existing policies
- Note the efficacy of redistributive + regulatory policy formula ("Carrots and Sticks")

### 2. Policy entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds can play a central role in

driving non-incremental change

Outsiders' perspectives and insiders' know-how

3. Not your grandma's and grandpa's higher education problems

a.21st century problems require 21st century solutions b. Thinking outside of the box

# PRIORITIES FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY POLICYMAKERS

1. The next frontier: **inclusion on campus** a. Eradicating the range of inequalities present on college campuses is a must b. Expanding resources and support for first-generation college students 2. Restoring **trust** in higher educational institutions a. Leaving the ivory tower behind us b. Addressing rising costs and controlling the campus development race

### THANK YOU!