I. For conservatives, government monopoly is inherently a problem
   A. Without competition between educational firms (schools) there is nothing to make schools competitive and accountable
      1. How can we tell what the proper “price” of education is without competition—what do we make of the fact that private schools education children more cheaply than do public schools?
      2. If parents could leave schools without great expense their desires would be better satisfied
      3. Since funding continues even if parents leave schools are free to ignore parental wishes and to impose their own definitions of the situation on a problematic relationship
      4. With competition there would be high-performing schools that would get more kids and drive the low-performing schools to improve or die
   B. The family rather than the child is the client
      1. Makes sense if we accept that parents are supposed to be the advocates and the guardians for children
      2. Rewards highly motivated families who are low income where universalism prevents them from using their motivation to advantage their kids.
      3. Debate about whether parents have enough expertise to make choices or whether professionals must make choices.
   C. Bureaucracy in itself (in addition to its monopolistic qualities) makes education ineffective
      1. Large size of the system and a plethora of regulations makes it hard to individualize education for the particular child
      2. Bureaucratic careerism becomes a goal and a process in itself which is disconnected from accountability to educating children and serving families
      3. Would schools automatically improve if you just got rid of the bureaucracy (New Orleans example)
      4. Can nonprofit schools provide an alternative?
      5. Supply of organizations and startup difficulties of continually reinventing the structure of a school—is the uneven distribution of nonprofits a problem?
      6. Public schools have the burden of education everybody while private schools can selectively exclude kids (is that inherent in being private?)
7. When families choose and sacrifice for private or religious education there are large gains in social capital

8. What happens when families are not willing or able to do the work of supporting a child in school?