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Even today, there is discussion about free and equal access to education for all citizens since education is still a privilege in many countries. What can we do as a society to prevent social inequality through unequal access to education?

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“In the 1950s, the GDR actually managed to resolve the century-old correlation between education and social inequality. During this decade, the GDR succeeded in creating access to higher education for many children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. In the 1950s, the number of university students from working class backgrounds was almost equal to the proportion of working class young adults in the overall population (proportional equal opportunity). However, starting in the 1960s, this achievement was increasingly lost. Nonetheless, the fact that in the 1950s equal education was even possible shows that the correlation between education and social inequality can be resolved if it is in the government’s interest. Education continues to be a privilege in *all* countries of the world! Equal opportunity for education must thus be a political priority! There isn’t a single country in the world that has successfully balanced out the educational disadvantages posed to children from lower social classes or minority groups. To reduce these disadvantages, a great deal must be invested in the public school system. Public education must begin as early as possible (preschool) and should be free up





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until university. In addition, children from underprivileged households must be deliberately encouraged to go after continuing education opportunities. All too often they don't even consider that such a path could be possible for them or their parents see no need for it. This is where teachers play a very important role by suggesting the possibility of continuing education to children from underprivileged households and providing them with continuous support on this journey. In a way, the public education system must provide disadvantaged children with the financial and mental support that children from more privileged households already receive at home."

