

Punished by Rewards: Uncovering the Undermining Power of Prizes, Grades, and Other Incentives

By Alfie Kohn

In his groundbreaking book, *Punished by Rewards*, Alfie Kohn argues that the use of rewards and punishments in education is counterproductive. He shows that rewards undermine intrinsic motivation, creativity, and self-direction. He also argues that punishments create a climate of fear and anxiety that can stifle learning.



Summary of Alfie Kohn's Punished by Rewards

by CGP Books

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1426 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 59 pages
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported



Kohn offers a wealth of evidence to support his claims. He cites studies that show that students who are rewarded for their work are less likely to enjoy the work itself and are more likely to cheat or take shortcuts. He also shows that students who are punished for their mistakes are more likely to

become anxious and fearful, and are less likely to take risks or try new things.

Kohn argues that the best way to motivate students is to create a learning environment that is challenging, supportive, and respectful. He suggests that teachers should focus on providing students with opportunities to explore their interests, develop their skills, and make meaningful connections. He also argues that teachers should avoid using rewards and punishments, and instead should focus on providing students with feedback that is specific, timely, and constructive.

Punished by Rewards is a must-read for anyone who is interested in creating a more effective and humane learning environment. Kohn's research and insights are invaluable, and his book offers a wealth of practical advice that can be used by teachers, parents, and administrators.

Key Findings

- Rewards undermine intrinsic motivation.
- Rewards can lead to cheating and shortcuts.
- Punishments create a climate of fear and anxiety.
- Punishments can stifle learning.
- The best way to motivate students is to create a challenging, supportive, and respectful learning environment.

Practical Advice

- Avoid using rewards and punishments.
- Provide students with opportunities to explore their interests.

- Develop students' skills.
- Make meaningful connections with students.
- Provide students with feedback that is specific, timely, and constructive.

Punished by Rewards is a groundbreaking book that challenges the traditional view of motivation. Kohn's research and insights are invaluable, and his book offers a wealth of practical advice that can be used by teachers, parents, and administrators to create more effective and humane learning environments.



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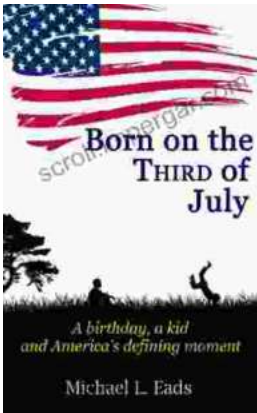
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