

Goldin, Claudia and Lawrence F. Katz. *The race between education and technology*. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2008. 488pp. ISBN: 978-0-674-02867-8.

The authors examine the reasons for America's decline as world leader in education from the 1950s to the present and the simultaneous growth in the gap between rich and poor. While rapid technological changes occurred in all wealthy countries, most also saw advances in education as opposed to the slowdown in the United States. By the end of the 20th century, more citizens in OECD countries were prepared to meet the new workplace technology expectations. The income gap in both the United States and the United Kingdom was reinforced by the decline of unions and other labor market institutions that protected middle- and lower-income workers. To address America's education problems the authors propose: 1) providing greater access to quality pre-school education for children from disadvantaged families, 2) improving the quality of primary and secondary education to prepare more students for college, and 3) facilitating adequate financial aid for post-secondary training. To deal with economic inequalities more immediately, Goldin and Katz recommend a modest increase in tax rates for the wealthiest Americans to underwrite payroll tax relief for lower-wage workers, a more generous earned income tax credit, and better health care access.