
Akron Beacon Journal

Home Schooling Series Recap

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This is the last installment of the Akron Beacon Journal's series on home schooling.

Here's a recap of the ideas and issues raised:

- The home-schooling movement has grown dramatically in recent years. Illegal in most states just 20 years ago, it's now legal nationwide.
- The movement is diverse, and parents' reasons for home-schooling are many and varied.
- There are thousands of home-schooling success stories. Many students achieve at the highest levels.
- The home-schooling movement is politically powerful and has been effective at defeating attempts to regulate it, or even to conduct broad research on it.
- The home-schooling lobby says research proves that home-schooled students do better than their public-schooled peers, but that research is narrow, and the researchers themselves say much of it has been overstated and misused.
- An unknown number of parents take advantage of the lack of home-school regulation to hide abuse and neglect of their children.
- Many home-schooling parents argue that it's a parent's right and responsibility -- not the government's -- to decide how children are educated.