

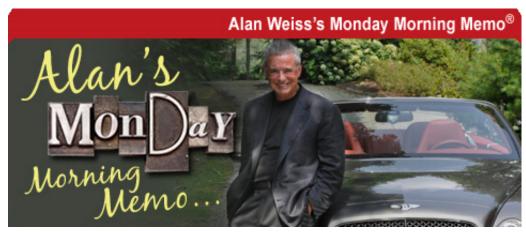
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## Alan Weiss's Monday Morning Memo

1 message

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Mon, May 6, 2013 at 2:16 PM



Alan's Monday Morning Memo's mission is to help readers to thrive.

This week's focus point: A "futurist" told me once that the next decade would be all about "credentialling." He couldn't have been more wrong. (The more initials I see after someone's name, the more suspicious I get.) Futurists, of course, are never held accountable for their predictions. The future is about talent and competence. Home schooling has demonstrated that dumping kids into uninspiring "factories" of education isn't mandatory (and perhaps not even desirable). Expert assessments are going to replace diplomas. Can you do this job and achieve this result? I'm not talking about standardized tests, but about demonstrations of ability. "Six years of experience" is often six years of mediocre performance. If you can pass the Bar exam, why attend law school for three years? If you can teach effectively, why spend years pursuing (usually vacuous) education degrees? If you can perform well as an insurance underwriter, why would a formal BA degree help? You get promoted in the workplace based on outstanding performance, not company-issued degrees. Too many people are educated and incompetent, and many are formally uneducated but brilliant. Let's acknowledge that.

**Monday Morning Perspective:** That our national anthem is difficult to understand and hard to use should not be surprising since it was written by a lawyer. -- Letter in the Wall Street Journal about Francis Scott Key

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