

**THE AMERICAN
COLLEGE; A
CRITICISM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649006946

The American college; a criticism by Abraham Flexner

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

**THE AMERICAN
COLLEGE; A
CRITICISM**

Copyright, 1908, by
THE CENTURY Co.

Published October, 1908

J. F. Borden Co.
Publishers
New York

TO
JOHN M. ATHERTON



CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE PROBLEM DEFINED	3
II. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLLEGE	22
III. THE COLLEGE AND THE SECONDARY SCHOOL	60
IV. THE ELECTIVE SYSTEM	116
V. GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE .	157
VI. THE WAY OUT	215



PREFACE

This book is based on an educational experience of almost twenty years, in the course of which I prepared many pupils for college; I tried also to observe their development during and after their college careers. Subsequently I spent two years as graduate student at two different American universities, and something above a year in England and Germany, where I enjoyed opportunities for observation. I have, moreover, frequently compared notes with teachers in secondary schools, colleges, universities and professional schools, whose experience has been in some respects fuller and more

PREFACE

direct than my own. But as their communications were made in confidence, I am compelled to forego the support which they would lend to the argument.

ABRAHAM FLEXNER.

New York, June 20, 1908.