

Republican Talking Points
Income Security and Family Support Subcommittee
Hearing on Disconnected Youth
June 19, 2007

- Youth failing to complete high school have great disadvantages.
- Children in foster care, especially teenagers, struggle to overcome many obstacles and have a particularly low rate of high school completion – 50 percent graduation rates versus 70 percent for other youth.
- A recent Democrat witness (Isabel Sawhill) testified about how those who finish high school, work full time, and only have children after getting married are more likely to live out of poverty and in the middle class.
- We should do whatever we can so all young people complete at least high school and are prepared to work full time so they can live the American Dream.
- Providing more opportunities for foster children to remain in a single school, through scholarships or other support, can improve their school attendance and raise their graduation rates.