

Paying for the Party Discussion Questions

Introduction and Chapter 1 – The Women

As discussed before in class, the economic background is essentially determined by luck. Is it possible for a university/college to provide students with basically the same starting point? Being able to live in self-decided dorms (party or normal) and not worrying about money for rent, tuition and food at all, everyone allowing to have a set amount of money each month?

Chapter 2 and 3 – The Party Pathway and Rush and Party Scene

How does the sorority girls' focus on superficiality prepare them for the real working world?

Chapter 4 and 5 – The Floor and Socialites, Wannabes and Fit with the Party Pathway

Are the socialites aware of how “easy” a life they are having?

Chapter 6 – Strivers, Creaming and the Blocked Mobility Pathway

Why is the university not more aware of strivers? Is it due to university being treated more like a business than an institution to help young people with their life?

Chapter 7 and 8 – Achievers, Underachievers and the Professional Pathway and College Pathways and Post-College Prospects

The young people who enter college to get a good degree, move out of their town to shoot in big cities and find a partner to have equal or more income than them – obviously higher in cities than in towns – to get married, does that not then feel like doing all of that beforehand, just to get married seems like a waste?

They want to marry into a good life, why can they not create their own good life?