

## **Demi Karoutsos, Parent**

I am a parent of 3 elementary school students in Queens NY. Common core in mathematics has been detrimental to their learning in that it emphasizes reading comprehension over actual learning of mathematics. While the ultimate goal is to be able to apply math to real world situations; at 7, 8, and 10 years old the goals should be to teach them the fundamentals so that in the future they can be able to grasp the concept. Teaching them two or three different ways to solve one problem has only confused my children and has not given them a strong foundation. As parents we have a tough time teaching them, my husband was a math major at an IVY league university and he has a difficult time explaining to a second, third, and fifth grader how to solve complex multi level problems the way that the common core dictates.

Common Core in ELA emphasizes one size fits all, everything is standardized and the texts are monotonous. We are losing creativity, we should not be comparing our children's test results to the rest of the world. It doesn't matter if on paper our children do not perform as well on exams as other countries. The reality is that America has the most creative and innovative workforce and our children's generation will be stagnant in productivity and innovation if these common core standards are upheld. I feel that these children are an experiment, please remove common core before it further damages a generation of education.