



Where Have All the Intellectuals Gone?

Including a reply to Furedi's critics
Frank Furedi

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- *The first edition of this book met with urgent and volatile views – both in support and opposition to Furedi's argument. Here, for the first time, he offers a candid and hard-hitting response to his critics.*
- *A fiery polemic, by the author of Paranoid Parenting and Therapy Culture, against the dumbing-down of our contemporary cultural and political life. This book sparks an essential public debate.*
- *Furedi attacks the corrosive political culture that afflicts contemporary education and public life: populism, flattery of the banal, spin, McDonaldisation, inclusion, and postmodernism.*

The intellectual is an endangered species. In place of such people as Bertrand Russell, Raymond Williams or Hannah Arendt - people with genuine learning, breadth of vision and a concern for public issues - we are landed with facile pundits, think tank apologists and spin doctors. In the age of the knowledge economy, we have somehow managed to combine the widest ever participation in higher education with the most dumbed-down orientation towards intellectual and cultural life.

Furedi's views expressed in this book were generally welcomed by reviewers as politically diverse as Roger Scruton and Terry Eagleton. Other writers, for example Noel Malcolm and David Aaronovich, were more hostile. What nobody did was to ignore the book: there is a consensus that this debate matters.

- **FRANK FUREDI** is a Professor in Sociology at the University of Kent. His previous books include *Culture of Fear* (Continuum 2002), *Paranoid Parenting* (Penguin 2002) and *Therapy Culture* (Routledge 2003). As one of Britain's leading social commentators, he regularly comments in the media and his articles are frequently published by the press in Britain and abroad.
- He is available for interview and can be commissioned to write features, articles and commentaries. He can be contacted at f.furedi@kent.ac.uk
- **EVENTS** – Frank Furedi will be speaking at Battle of Ideas 2006 taking place at the Royal College of Art on the 28th & 29th October. For more information on the event visit www.battleofideas.co.uk

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