And according to Mr. Bauerlein, they know next to nothing. Fewer than 30 percent know what the Reconstruction was, and practically a quarter of them cannot identify Dick Cheney as the vice president. They’re six times more likely to be able to name the current American Idol than the speaker of the House of Representatives. On tests of competence in math and science, American high-schoolers do worse than students from countries that we used to think of as backward. In fact, that’s the great paradox of the dumbest generation, Mr. Bauerlein says: never have American students had it so easy, and never have they achieved less.

-New York Times

The technology that was supposed to make young adults more astute, diversify their tastes, and improve their minds had the opposite effect.

Drawing upon exhaustive research, detailed portraits, and historical and social analysis, The Dumbest Generation presents an uncompromisingly realistic study of the young American mind at this critical juncture. The book also lays out a compelling vision of how we might address its deficiencies.

-www.dumbestgeneration.com

Join Mark Bauerlein for a lively discussion about his new book, *The Dumbest Generation*

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