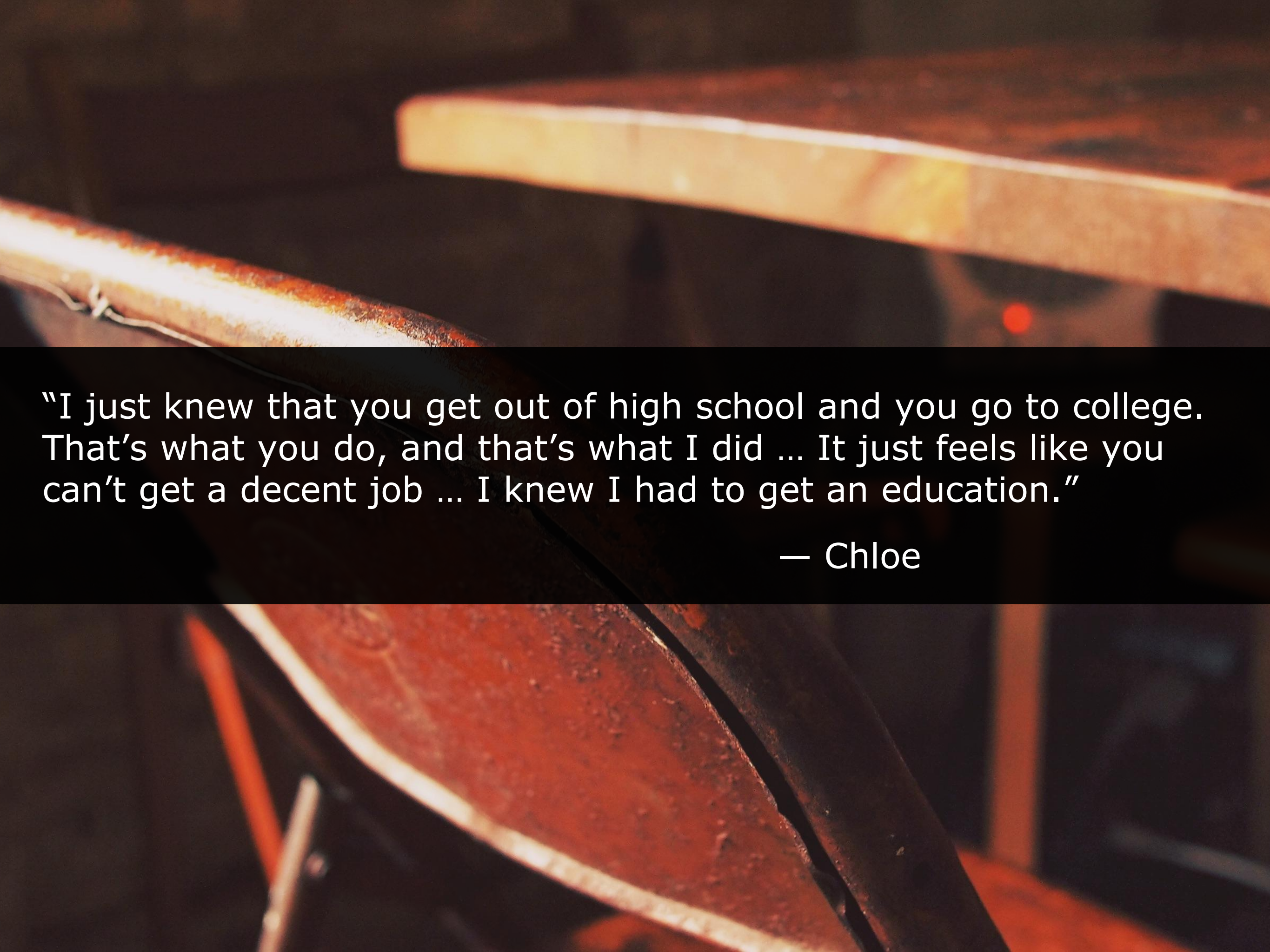


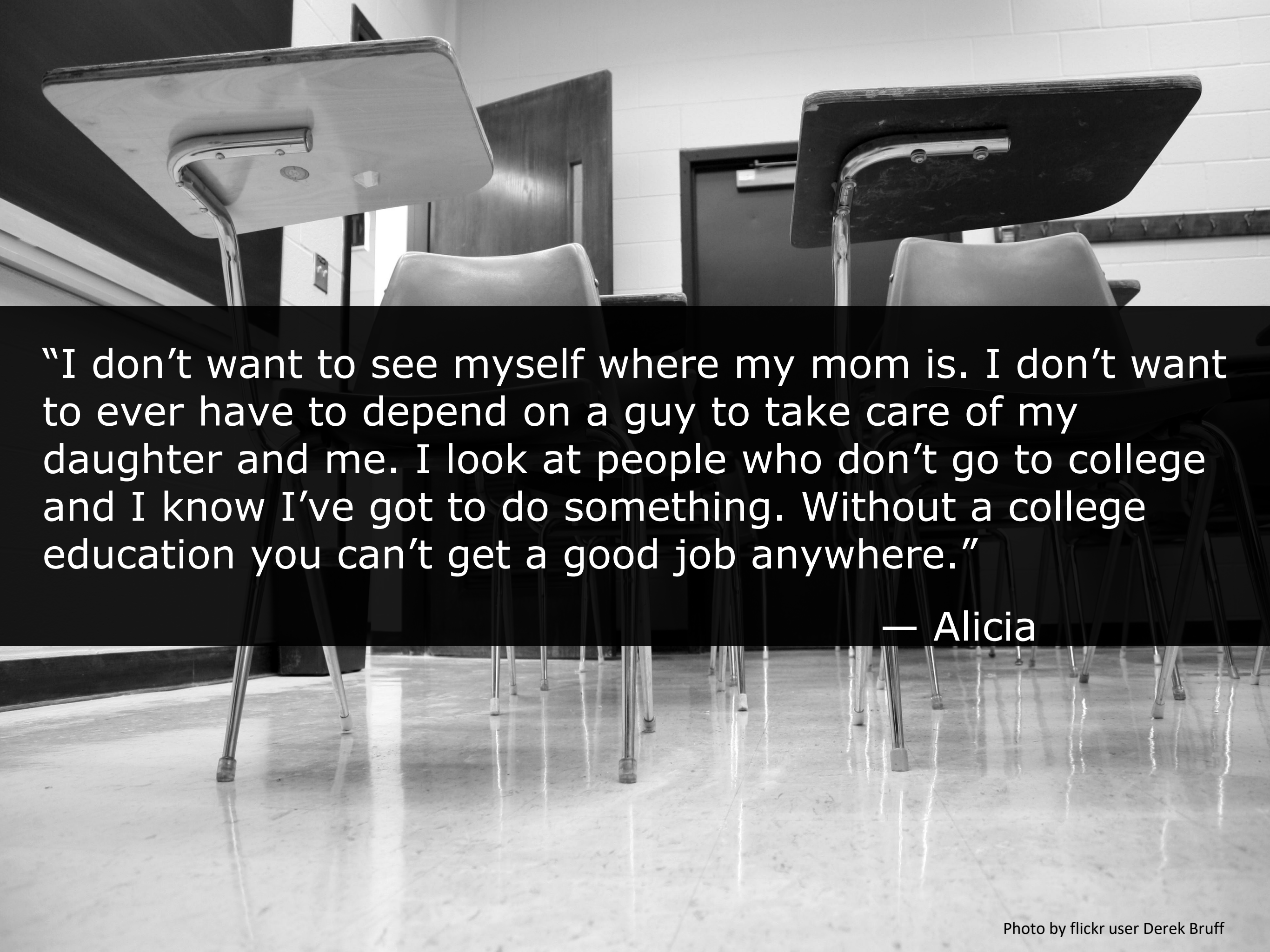


Preparing Students Beyond Tuition



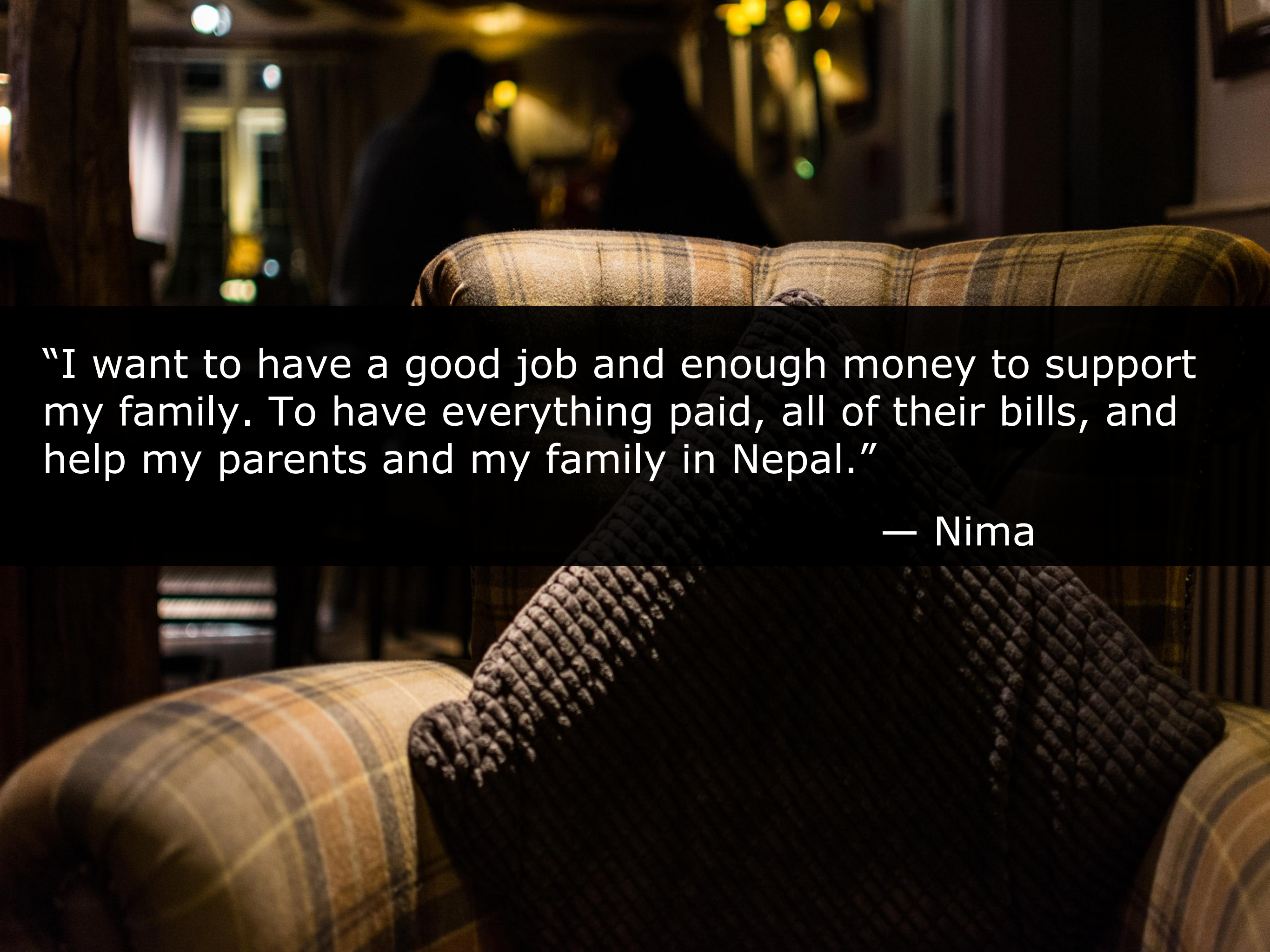
"I just knew that you get out of high school and you go to college. That's what you do, and that's what I did ... It just feels like you can't get a decent job ... I knew I had to get an education."

— Chloe



"I don't want to see myself where my mom is. I don't want to ever have to depend on a guy to take care of my daughter and me. I look at people who don't go to college and I know I've got to do something. Without a college education you can't get a good job anywhere."

— Alicia

A dimly lit interior space, likely a living room. In the foreground, a plaid sofa is visible, with a dark, textured blanket draped over it. The background is out of focus, showing warm, yellowish light from a lamp and a doorway leading to another room. The overall atmosphere is cozy and intimate.

“I want to have a good job and enough money to support my family. To have everything paid, all of their bills, and help my parents and my family in Nepal.”

— Nima



“College” now means lots of things--
vocational training, liberal arts, university—
And many students are struggling with all of it.

Gut Check

What percent of students who start college complete any credential within 6 years?



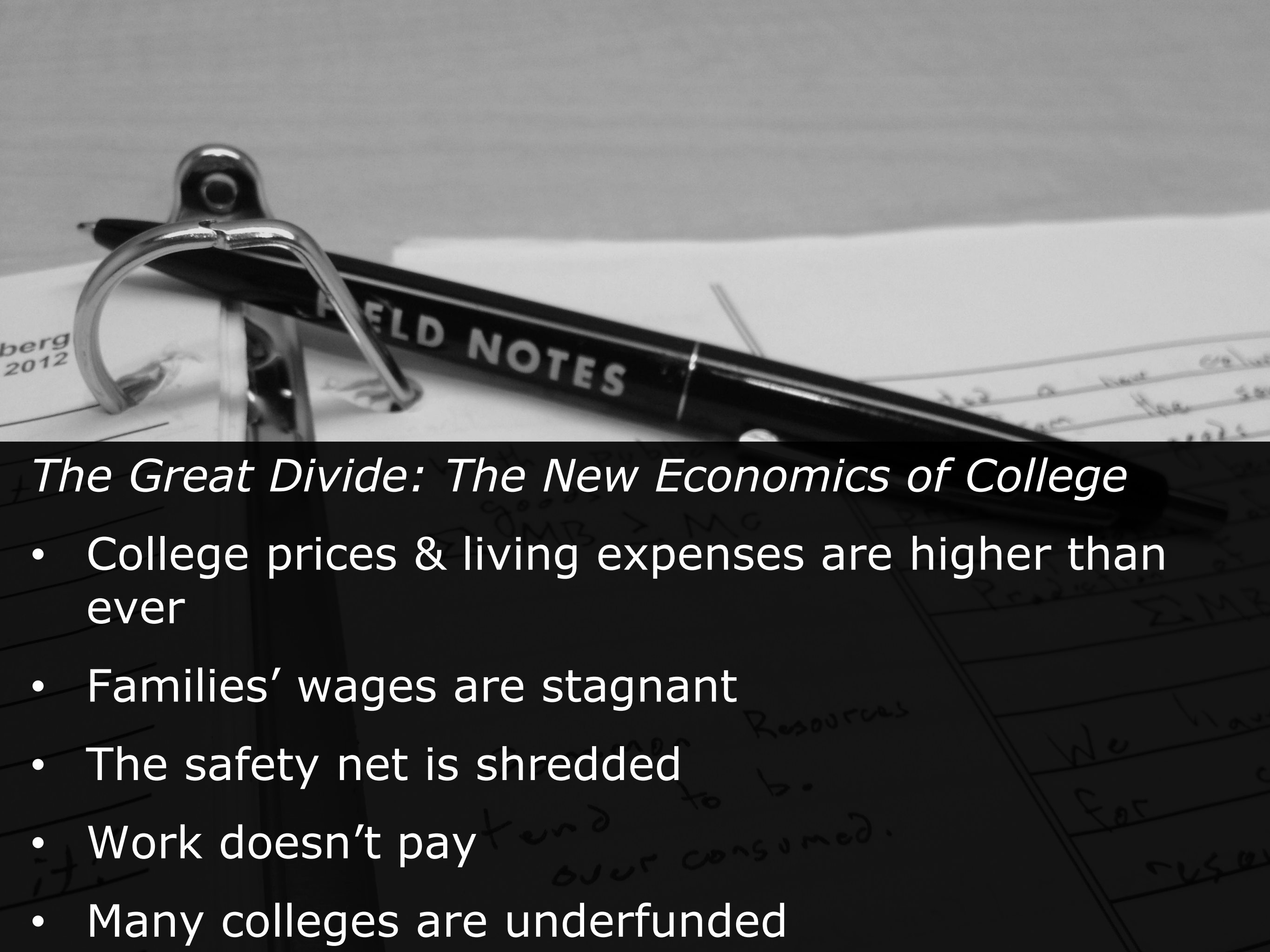
Gut Check

What percent of students who start college complete any credential within 6 years?

61%.

From low-income neighborhoods: 50%

From high-income neighborhoods: 76%



The Great Divide: The New Economics of College

- College prices & living expenses are higher than ever
- Families' wages are stagnant
- The safety net is shredded
- Work doesn't pay
- Many colleges are underfunded



Financial aid misunderstands today's families.

Many can't pay what is "expected."

And many student support their families while in college.



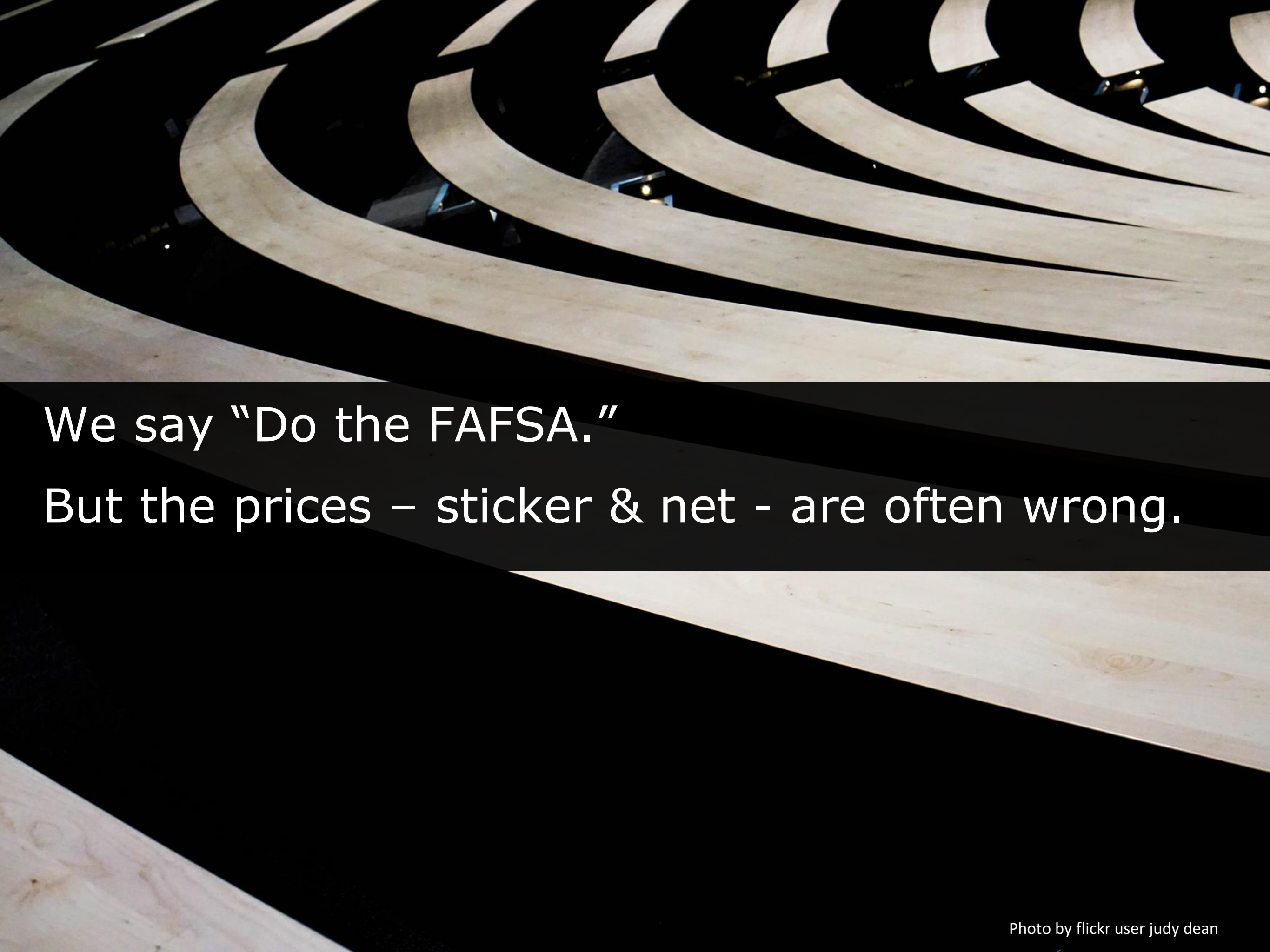
“I’m having trouble providing for my mom.. at times she needs help so I’ve been helping with her bills...Yeah sometimes I feel like I don’t want to pay for this, but at the same time, when I look back and I needed this when I was younger, she worked hard for me.” #FamilyMatters



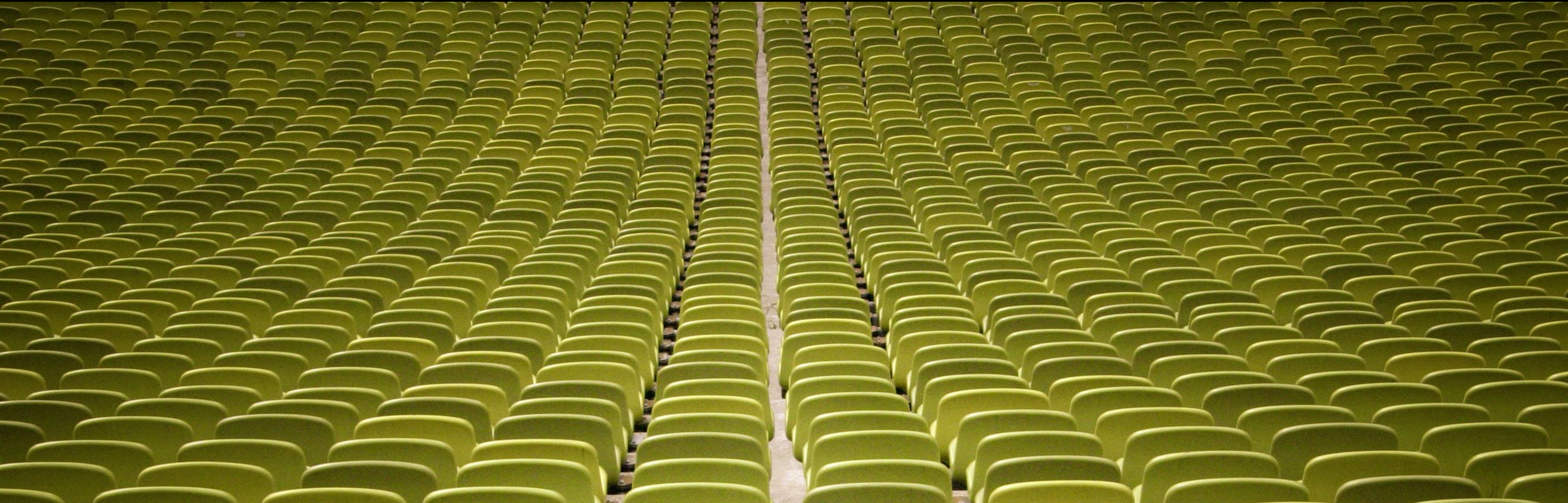
Gut Check

Have you worked with a student who is helping their family make ends meet?





We say “Do the FAFSA.”
But the prices – sticker & net – are often wrong.



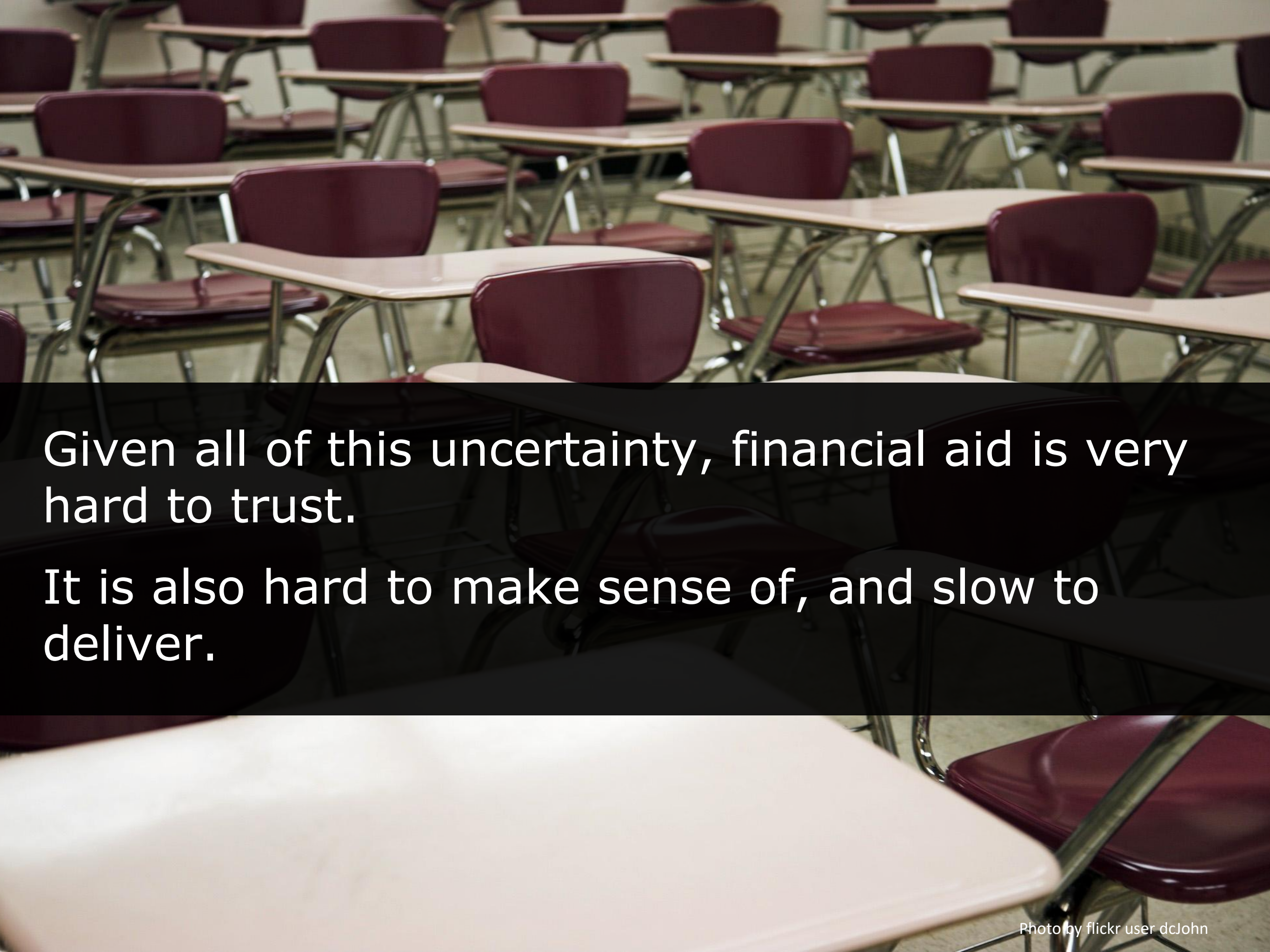
Advertised living expenses are often inaccurate.





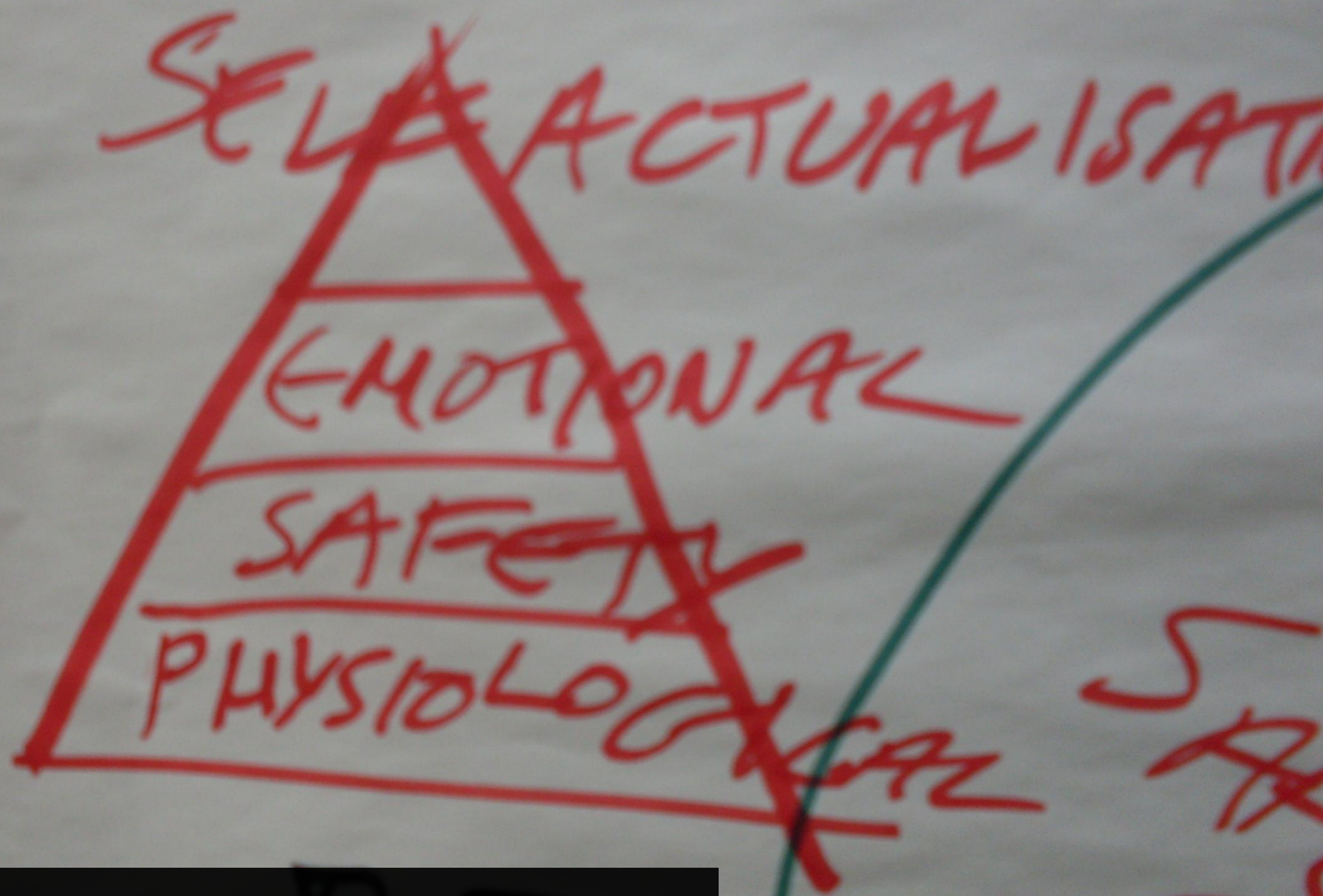
Prices rise over time:

- As students don't re-file FAFSA
- As state aid runs out
- As institutional aid is removed
- As academic requirements trip students up
- As regular costs of living soar



Given all of this uncertainty, financial aid is very hard to trust.

It is also hard to make sense of, and slow to deliver.



It's easy to forget Maslow

Food insecurity & housing insecurity are on campus.
An estimated 10% of students are homeless.



Even when help exists it can be hard to find.



Gut Check

What percent of students who need help with their essential needs know where to find it on campus?



Gut Check

What percent of students who need help with their essential needs know where to find it on campus?

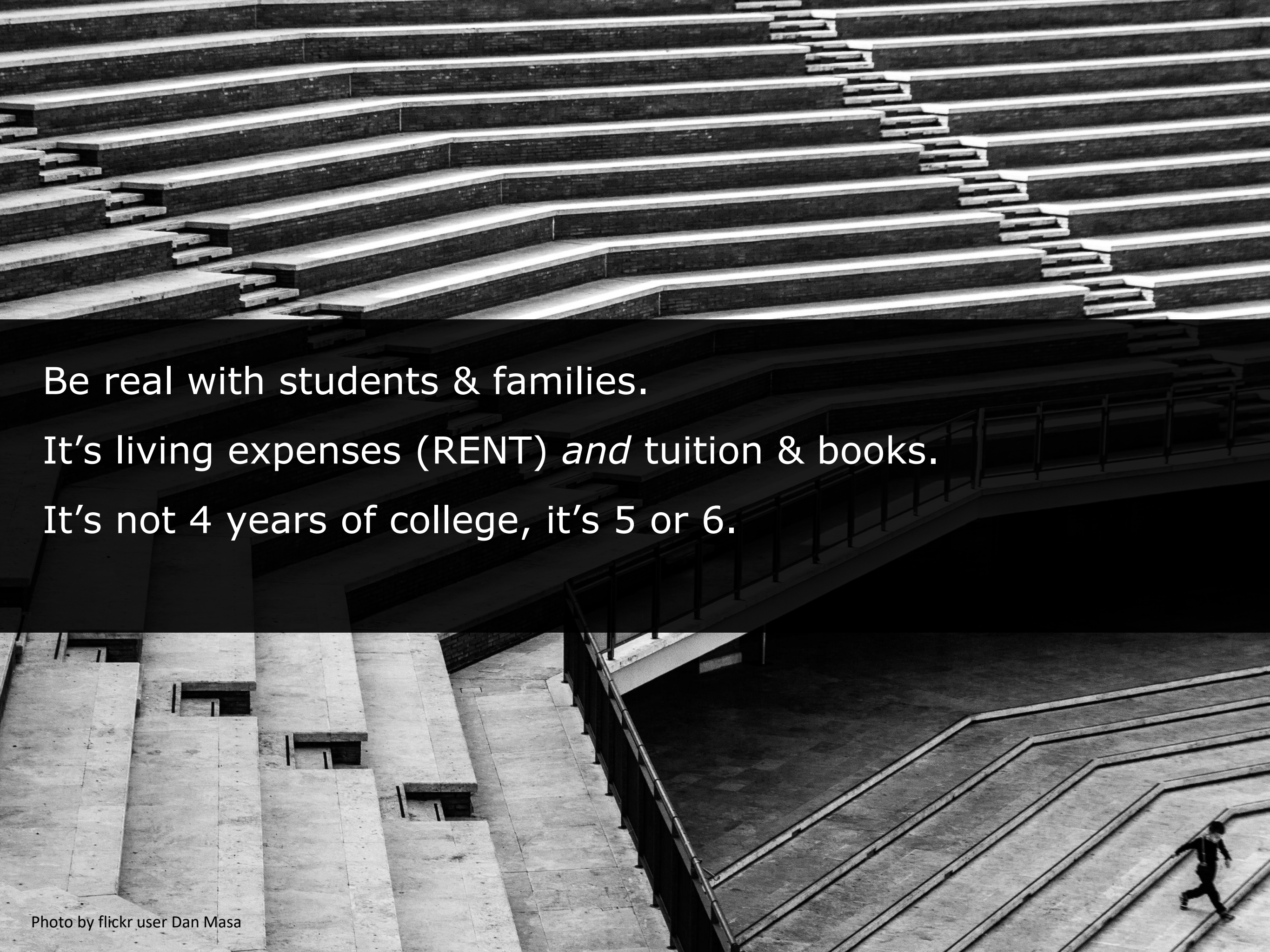
33%



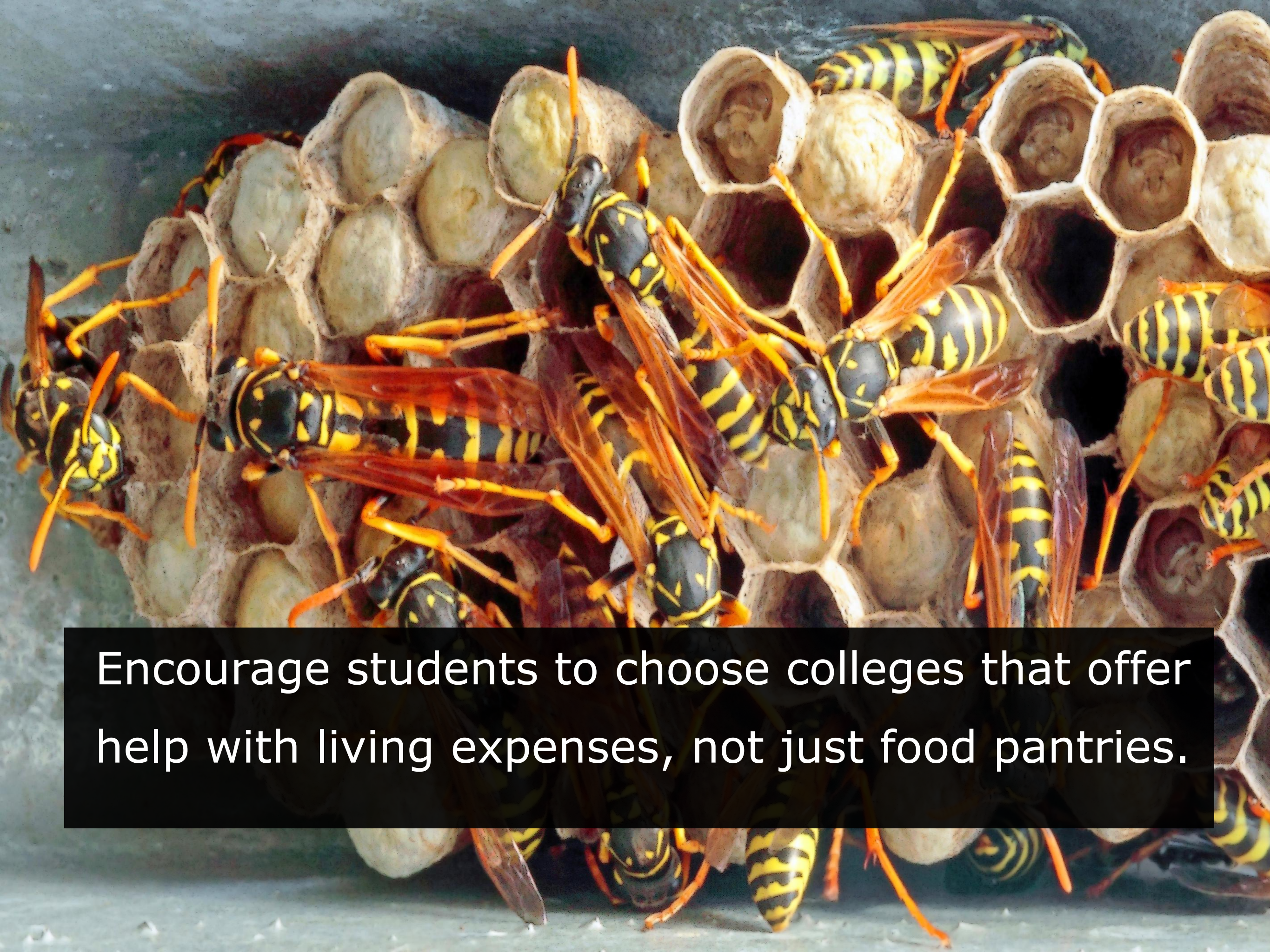
We can and must do better.



We must prepare students for this reality-
while also trying to fix it.



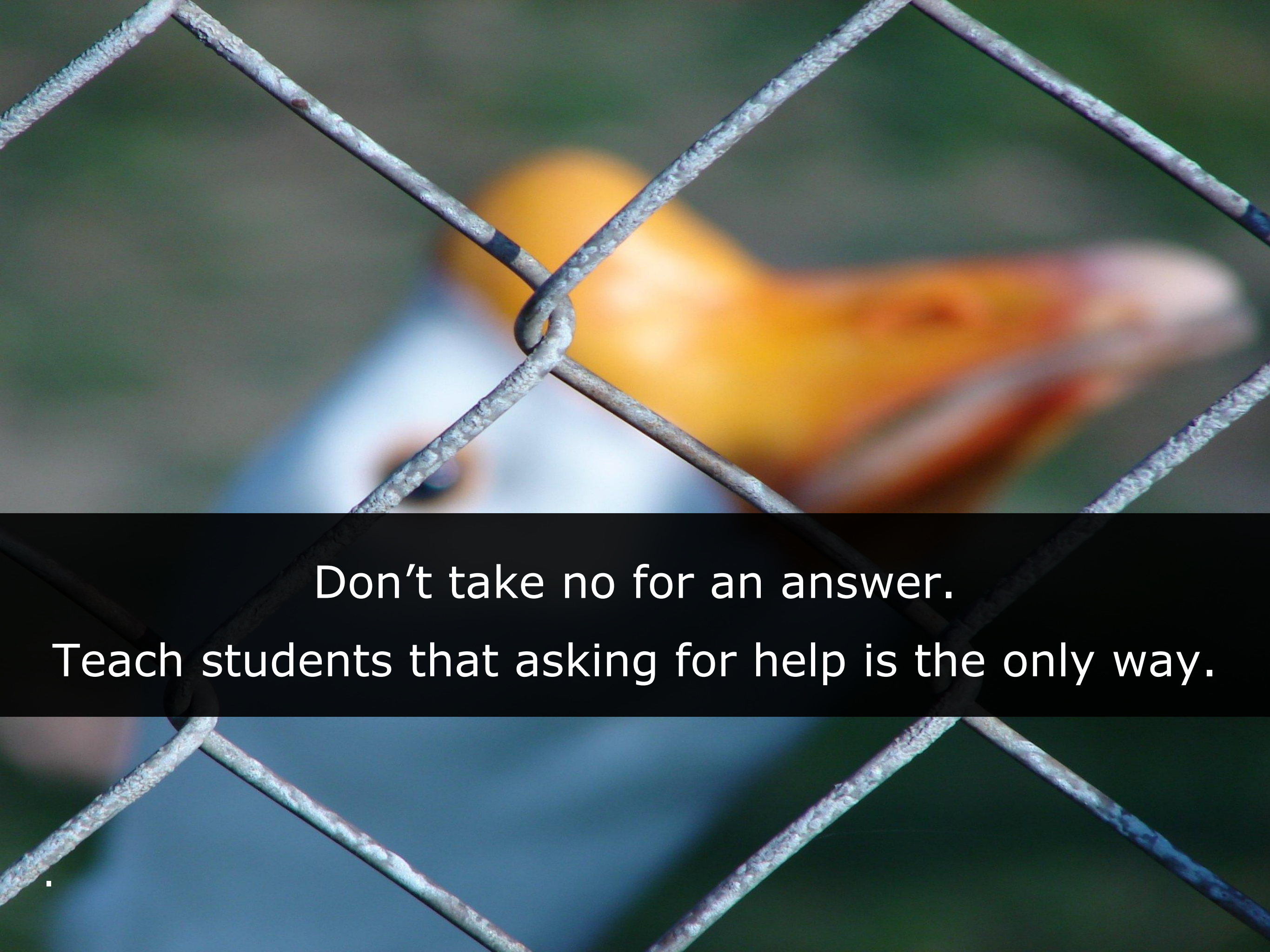
Be real with students & families.
It's living expenses (RENT) *and* tuition & books.
It's not 4 years of college, it's 5 or 6.



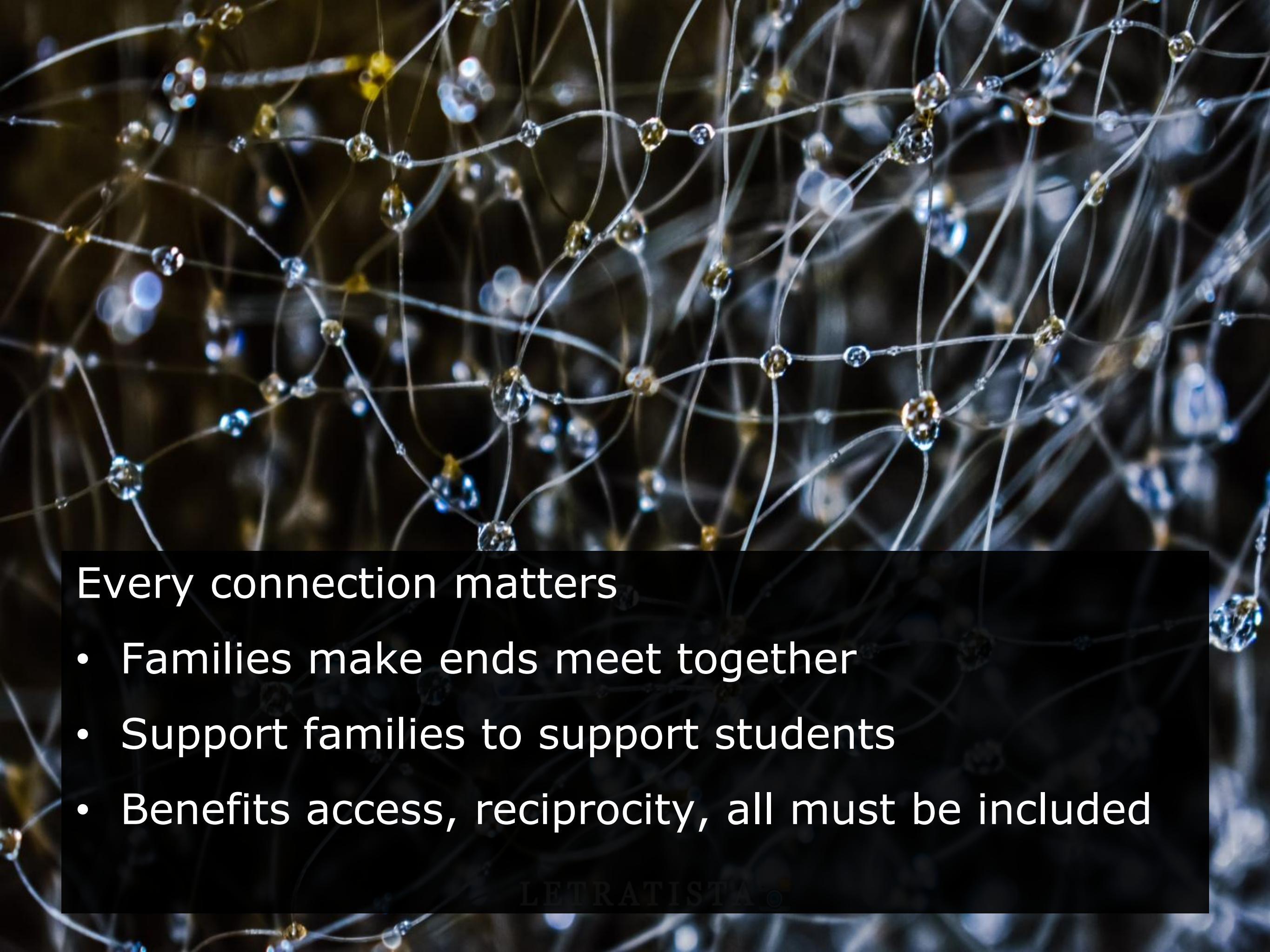
Encourage students to choose colleges that offer help with living expenses, not just food pantries.

FAFSA isn't enough. Help students plan to access every resource. Plan for emergencies.





Don't take no for an answer.
Teach students that asking for help is the only way.



Every connection matters

- Families make ends meet together
- Support families to support students
- Benefits access, reciprocity, all must be included



Students need many plans for how they will work–
and study. And care for family. And care for self.

Make a Plan A. And B. And C. Even a restart if needed.

Help students know that they are up against systemic problems, not their personal flaws.



A low-angle, perspective shot looking down the length of an empty school bus. The bus has blue upholstered seats with red side panels. Metal handrails run along the ceiling and sides. The floor is a light-colored material with dark diagonal stripes. The perspective draws the eye towards the front of the bus. A semi-transparent black banner with white text is overlaid across the middle of the image.

Push colleges to offer the supports that k-12 does:
Free lunch, subsidized housing & transportation, single
points of contact, school nurses, and more.

Public Policy Options

- Improve access to public benefits for college students
- Expand the National School Lunch Program to college
- Offer affordable housing and childcare
- Raise the minimum wages
- Create a new financing model for public higher education that is





Thank you. SaraGoldrickRab.com