

Katharine B. Stevens

Katharine B. Stevens is a scholar at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), where her work focuses on the science and policy of children’s early learning and development. She studies the crucial role of early childhood in fostering better economic outcomes and breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty in disadvantaged communities, as well as potential unintended consequences of rapidly expanding early-childhood programs.

Before joining AEI, Dr. Stevens founded and led Teachers for Tomorrow, one of the first teacher apprenticeship programs in the United States, which recruited and trained teachers for New York City’s lowest-performing schools. She began her career in public education as an assistant in a Head Start classroom in St. Louis, Missouri, and a preschool teacher in New Haven, Connecticut.

Her publications include “[Renewing Childhood’s Promise: The History and Future of Federal Early Care and Education Policy](#)” (AEI, 2015); “[Does Pre-K Work? The Research on Ten Early Childhood Programs—And What It Tells Us](#)” (AEI, 2016); and “[Still Left Behind: How America’s Schools Keep Failing Our Children](#)” (AEI, 2020).

Her analyses and commentary have been published in Education Week, The Hill, HuffPost, Los Angeles Times, New York Daily News, New York Post, RealClearEducation, Tax Notes Federal, USA Today, US News & World Report, and The Wall Street Journal, among others.

Dr. Stevens has a PhD in education policy from Columbia University, an MEd from Teachers College, an MBA from Columbia Business School, and a BA in US history from the University of Chicago.