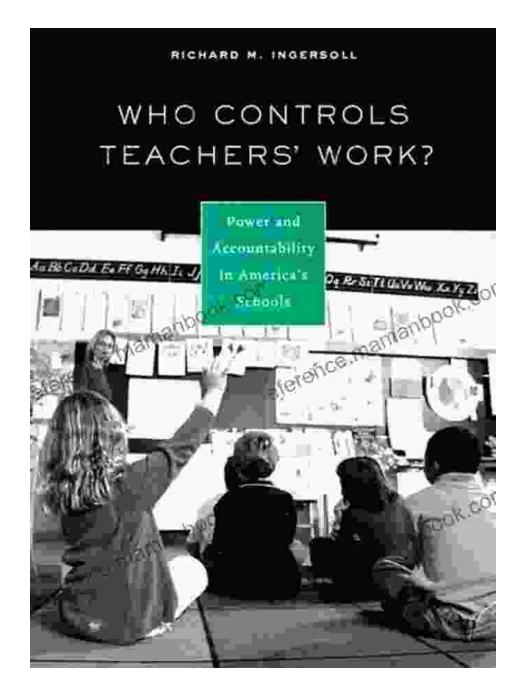
# **Power and Accountability in America's Schools**



Who Controls Teachers' Work?: Power and Accountability in America's Schools by Richard M. Ingersoll



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5 : English



File size: 3624 KBText-to-Speech: EnabledScreen Reader: SupportedEnhanced typesetting: EnabledWord Wise: EnabledPrint length: 366 pages



The American education system is a complex and ever-evolving landscape. One of the most important issues facing schools today is the question of power and accountability. Who has the power to make decisions about schools, and how are they held accountable for those decisions?

This is a complex question with no easy answers. However, it is an important question to ask, as the power and accountability structures in schools have a significant impact on the quality of education that students receive.

#### The Distribution of Power in Schools

In most American schools, the distribution of power is hierarchical. The principal has the most power, followed by the assistant principals, teachers, and then students. This hierarchy is often reinforced by the school's organizational structure, which typically places the principal at the top of the decision-making pyramid.

However, the distribution of power in schools is not always this simple. In some schools, teachers may have more power than administrators, or students may have a greater voice in decision-making. The distribution of power can also vary depending on the issue being considered. For example, teachers may have more power over curriculum decisions, while administrators may have more power over budget decisions.

#### The Importance of Accountability

Accountability is essential for ensuring that schools are using their power responsibly. When schools are held accountable, they are more likely to make decisions that are in the best interests of students.

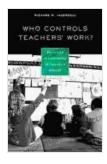
There are many different ways to hold schools accountable. One common way is through standardized testing. Standardized tests can measure student achievement and help to identify schools that are struggling. Another way to hold schools accountable is through parent involvement. Parents can advocate for their children's education and help to ensure that schools are meeting their needs.

#### The Challenges of Power and Accountability

There are a number of challenges associated with power and accountability in schools. One challenge is the fact that power can be abused. When people have power, they can use it to benefit themselves or their friends, rather than to benefit the students they are supposed to serve.

Another challenge is the fact that accountability can be difficult to measure. It can be difficult to determine whether a school is making progress or not, and it can be even more difficult to determine who is responsible for that progress or lack of progress. The issue of power and accountability in schools is a complex one with no easy answers. However, it is an important issue to consider, as the power and accountability structures in schools have a significant impact on the quality of education that students receive.

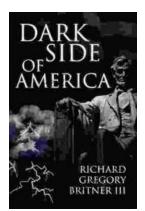
By understanding the challenges and opportunities associated with power and accountability, we can work to create schools that are more equitable and effective.



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