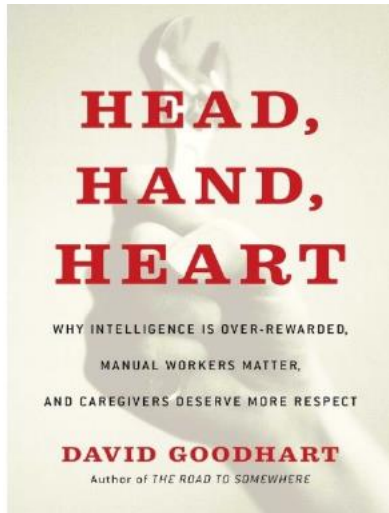


WRITER'S TALK

David Goodhart

Thursday 17 December 2020 at 5pm



“Head, Hand, Heart”

The thesis of David Goodhart’s book is that since the Second World War universities have expanded dramatically and graduates with cognitive ability have acquired a disproportional esteem, more political influence and much higher financial rewards than those who work with their hands or with their hearts as carers. The balance has got out of kilter, with significant social and political consequences

Head, Hand, Heart tells the story of the cognitive takeover that has gathered pace over the past forty years. As recently as the 1970s most people left school without qualifications, but now 40 per cent of all jobs are graduate-only. Goodhart argues that a good society must re-imagine the meaning of skilled work, so that people who work with their hands and hearts are valued alongside workers who manipulate data. Our societies need to spread status more widely, and provide meaning and value for people who cannot, or do not want to, achieve in the classroom and the professions.

David Goodhart is a journalist and writer who spent 12 years at the Financial Times before setting up the monthly magazine Prospect. After editing the magazine for 15 years he moved into the world of think-tanks and was the Director of Demos. He is currently head of the Demography Unit at the Policy Exchange.

His book "The British Dream: Successes and Failures of Post-War Immigration" was the runner up for the Orwell Book Prize and his book "The Road to Somewhere: The Populist Revolt and the Future of Politics" was a Sunday Times "Best Seller".

Last month he was appointed by the Government as a Commissioner to the Board of the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

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