



Steve Hart for The New York Times

Patrick O'Donoghue, left, and Garret Cordaro celebrating the graduation of Michael Davidson, a relative, from Fordham University yesterday with the graduate's picture on masks.

Commencements

Fordham Graduates Are Urged to Serve

Under a hot sun in the Bronx, 1,645 Fordham University seniors received their degrees yesterday at the university's 149th commencement.

Fordham awarded a total of 2,369 degrees in its 10 undergraduate and graduate schools.

The commencement speaker, Jonathan Kozol, who has written books on education reform and homelessness, condemned what he said was widespread segregation in America's schools and the treatment of New York City's homeless by the Transit Authority.

"Forty years after the Brown decision ending school segregation, schools remain segregated and unequal, and here in New York City, more segregated and more unequal than elsewhere," Mr. Kozol told the graduates and 5,000 spectators on the lawn of the Jesuit university's Rose Hill campus quadrangle.

He criticized friends who, he said, had joined him in the 1960's civil rights struggle who now live on the Upper West Side of Manhattan and send their children to prep schools while Upper West Side schools remain primarily segregated.

Mr. Kozol, the author of the 1988 book "Rachel and Her Children: Homeless Families in America," condemned the New York City Transit Department's policy on the homeless.

"The solution in New York City is to sweep them out of sight and to make absolutely sure they know how much we hate them," he said.

"God told us to share. I pray you will carry on the tradition of the Jesuits and go forth and serve."

Honorary degrees were awarded to Mary Catherine Bateson, an anthropologist, scholar, linguist and author; Frances G. Berko, a 1944 graduate of Fordham Law School, the New York advocate for the disabled; Dr. Michael J. Brescia, a 1954 graduate of Fordham College, a physician, scientist and humanitarian; E. Gerald Corrigan, the chairman of international advisers for Goldman Sachs and a former president of Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and Francis Hezel, a 1962 graduate of Fordham College, the regional superior of Jesuits in Micronesia.

University of Connecticut

STORRS, Conn. (AP) — New graduates are experiencing change not just by leaving school, but also by entering a highly technological work world, the film executive Peter Guber told a University of Connecticut audience yesterday.

"In our global electronic village, you throw the switch, and you have the power, figuratively and literally," said Mr. Guber, the chairman and chief executive of Sony Pictures Entertainment, who received an honorary degree.

Mr. Guber produced films including "Rain Man," which won an Academy Award for best picture, "The Color Purple," "Flashdance" and

"The Witches of Eastwick."

He told the 3,234 graduates that none of them could avoid the changes to the world brought by the communications technology explosion.

Satellites, the Internet, faxes and microprocessors are tools a person anywhere in the world can use to make a contribution to society, Mr. Guber said.

The university's class representative, Destine Ryan of Quincy, Mass., who received a bachelor of science degree in business administration, also told her fellow graduates of the changing world they were about to enter.

"When we were born, Nelson Mandela was in prison for his beliefs," she said. "When we were in high school, he was still in prison. Today, he is the president of South Africa."



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