Glen Loury:

You can’t tell me that university without [English Department] is still the full university. Or [without] Mathematics Department. I guess you are going to say that science ultimately depends on mathematics or something like that, but there is a lot of mathematics that’s never going to touch the ground. You know, just pure intellectual whatever it is.

Amy Wax:

What about reducing it to one tenth of the current level? Or to one fifteenth the current level? And here is the other thing. I mean, sure, I am the last person to denigrate pure mathematics. It is a glory of mankind, but, you know, the people who established mathematics, who discovered the basic axioms of mathematics, they didn’t have this elaborate university establishment, or they didn’t need it. They just put their head down and thought about it. And, honestly, that’s one point. The second point is, you know, if we got rid of ninety percent of the math Ph.D. programs, would we really be worse off in any material respect? I think that’s a serious question. I am not advocating of getting rid of a hundred percent of them.