Owen, Stephanie, and Isabel Sawhill. “Should Everyone Go to College?” *They Say I Say* . Eds. Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein and Russel Durst. New York: Norton and Company, 2015. 208-223. Print.

In the article “Should Everyone Go to College?” by Stephanie Owen and Isabel Sawhill, the main idea illustrated is that colleges are not the best option for everyone. If statistics show that the smartest and most motivated people are the most likely to attend college and be financially successful, then the real effect of college cannot be measured. On average, benefits of college far outweigh its cost; however, for many individuals, benefits may not outweigh the cost because of the amount of debt that a student may owe after graduating. The field of study and major affects one’s success. For example, the average education or arts major earns less than a high school graduate. The choice of major also affects one’s ability to look for a job. Many low-income students are more likely to drop out of college due to the inability to pay tuition, and end up spending many years paying off the money. The authors also claim that many students do not choose the right college for them. Owen and Sawhill offer solutions for policymakers to help students make the right choices. First, information must be given in a transparent and accessible manner. Next, the government should reward students for college attendance and dedication. Finally, there should be good alternative pathways other than college such as apprenticeships. The authors Owen and Sawhill work at the Center on Children and Families in Brookings. Sawhill is the co director and a senior fellow in economic studies. Owen is a senior research assistant as well as a research associate at the Urban Institute. Therefore, they seem to be reliable, credible, and accurate sources. The data and graphs provided show their intensive research. Since the article was written in 2013, the source is recent. The audience was intended for those who are interested in finding more about society and social sciences. The intended audience also may be for those who are researching to create alternative ways to college. I agree with Sawhill and Owen because for most people, due to personal reasons, college is not the best option. There must be other alternatives to accommodate for those who do not find college fit for them.