

Finnish Lessons



What can the world
learn from educational
change in Finland?

Pasi Sahlberg

Foreword by Andy Hargreaves
Series Foreword by Ann Lieberman

the
series on
school reform

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Why Finland?

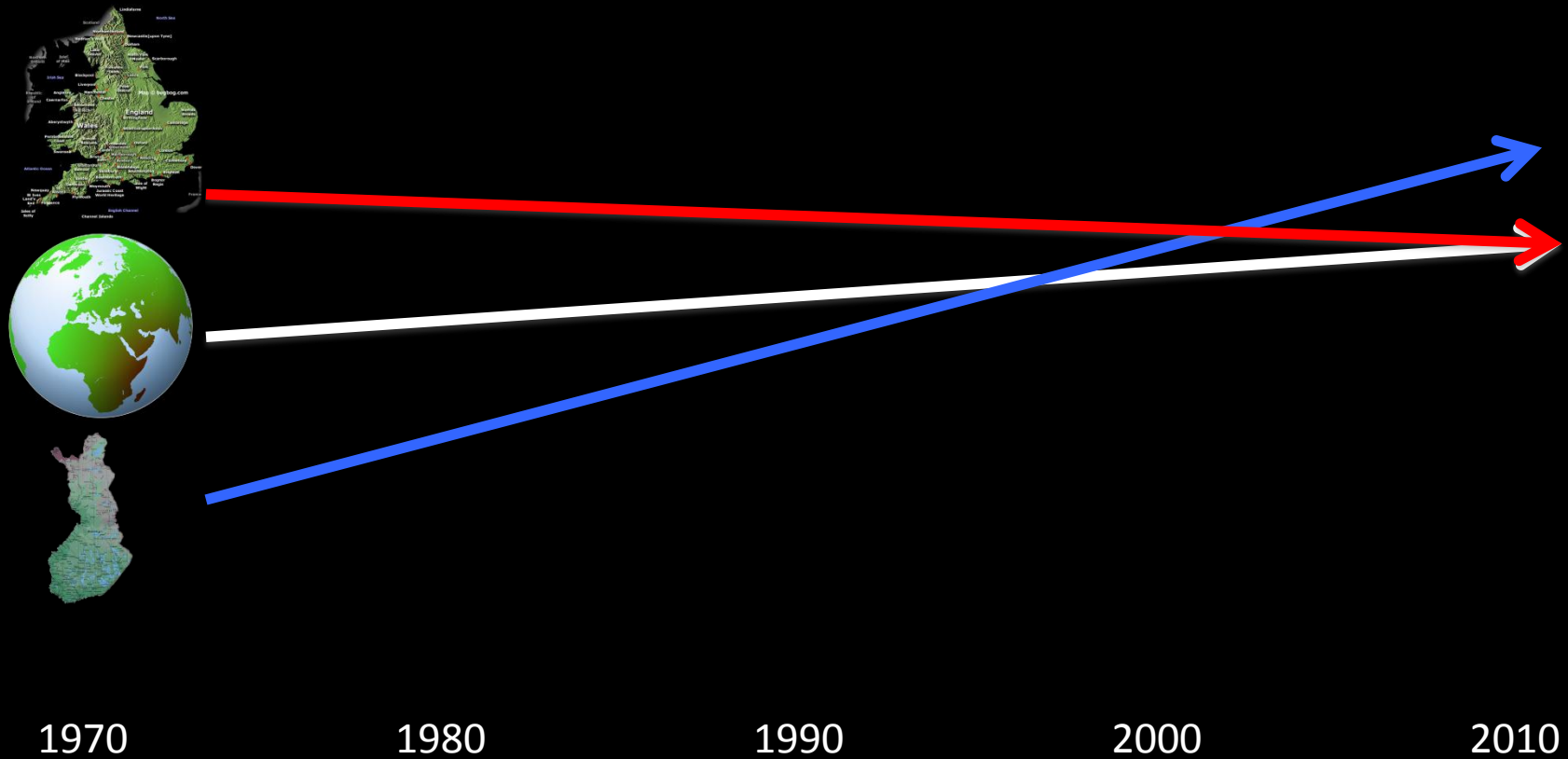
3 things to get right

Finland has not always been a high performer

Finland has never aimed to be a top performer

Finland ranks high in many other areas as well

Educational performance over time

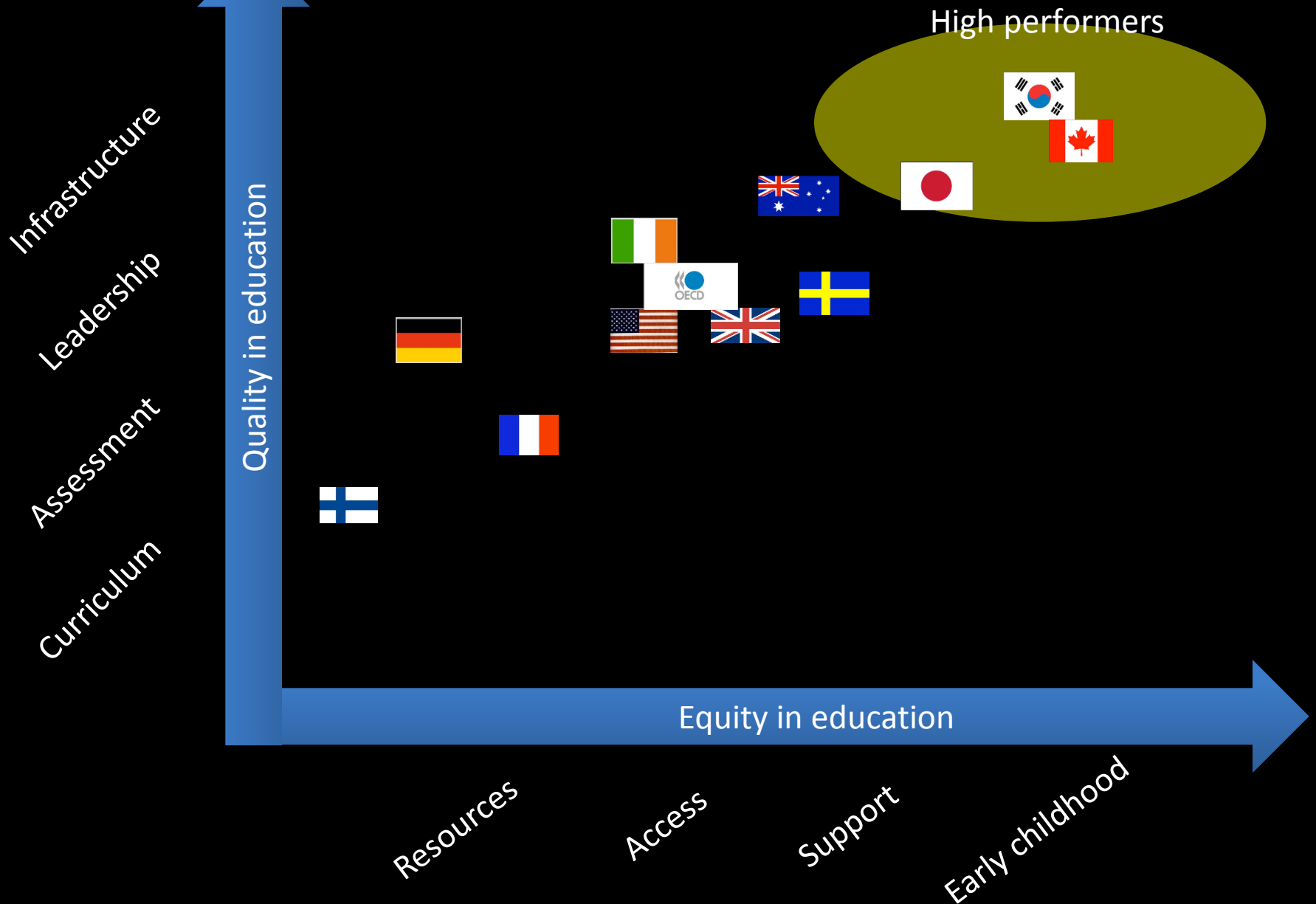


Similar policies, better
implementation?

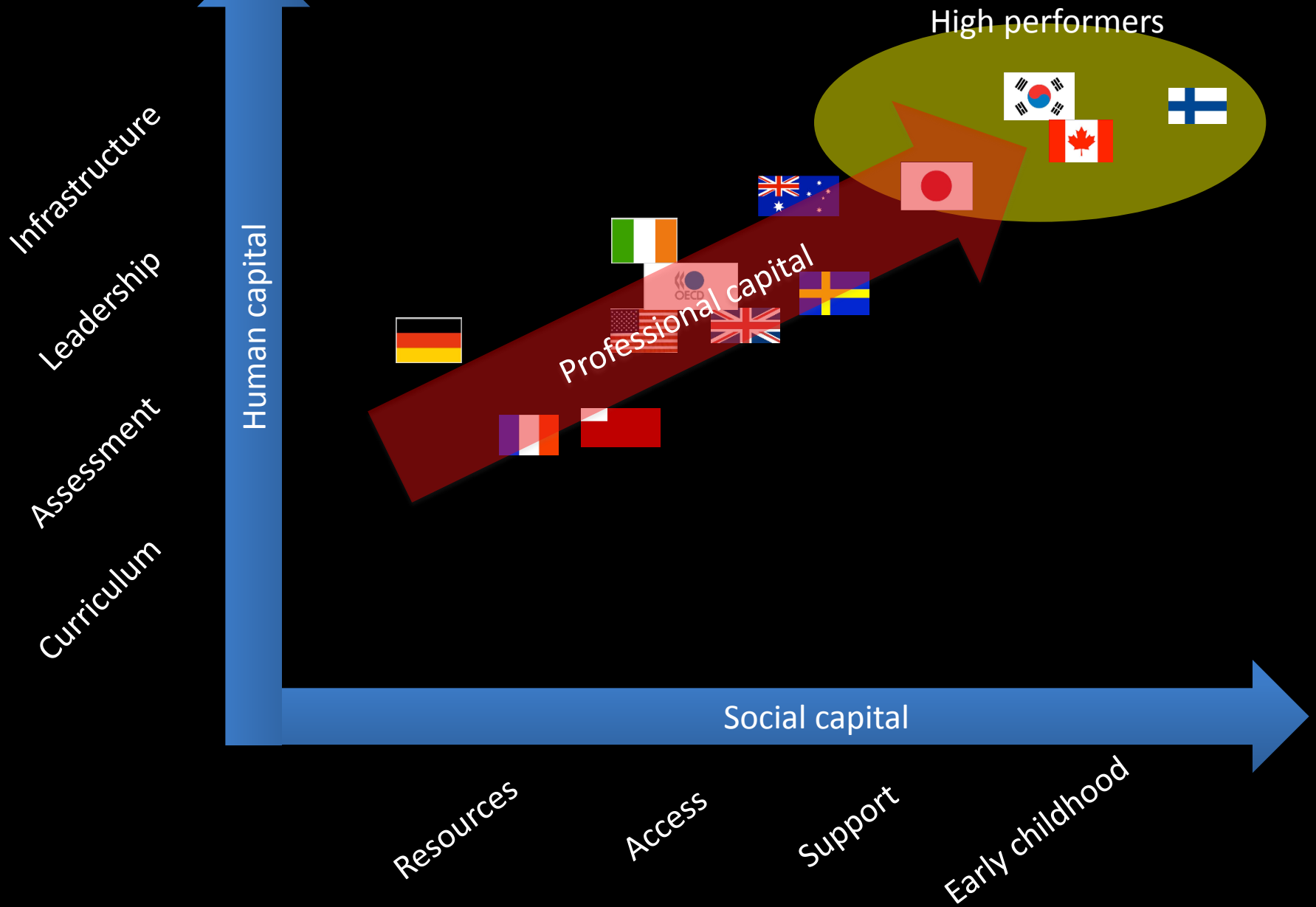
or

Different policies, different
implementation?

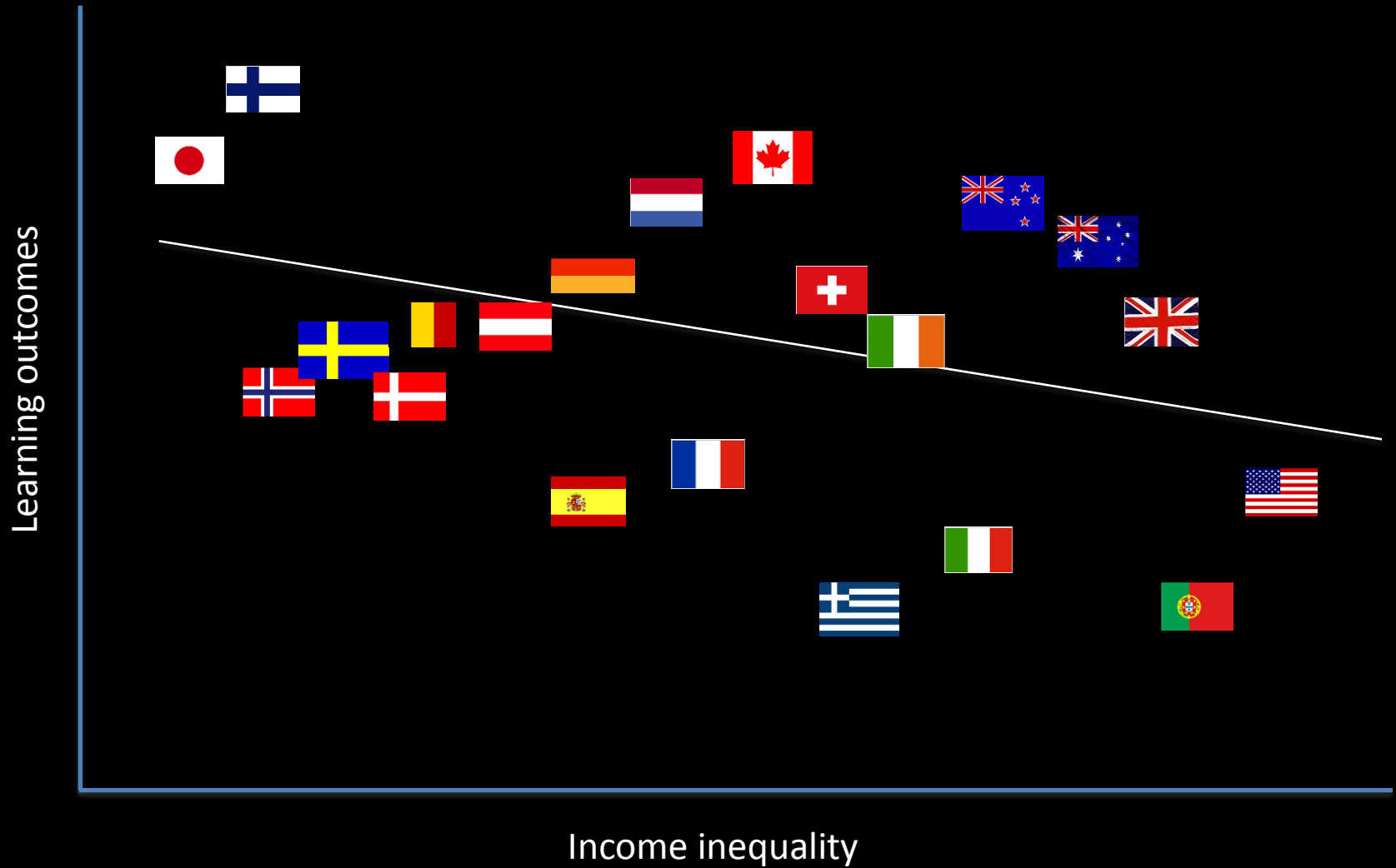
Policy driver #1: Enhancing equity



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Income inequality and learning



Policy driver #1: Enhancing equity

Variation of students' reading literacy in PISA 2009

Variation
between school



Policy driver #2:
Less is more



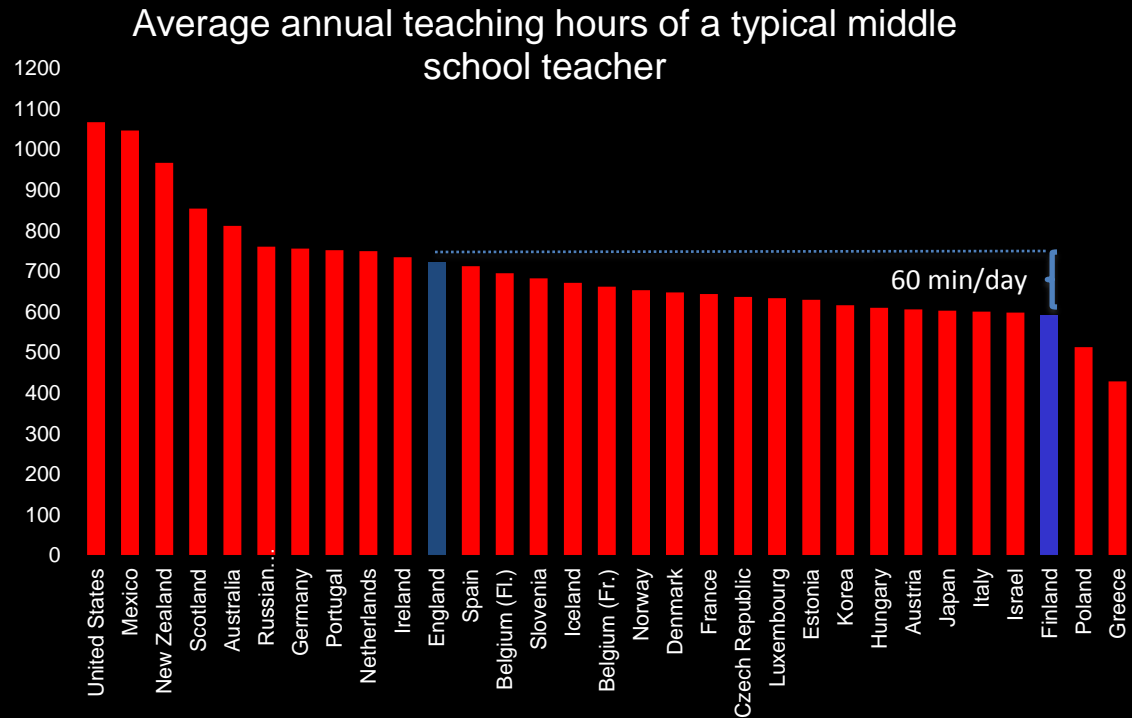
Policy driver #2: Less is more

Less teaching time



Policy driver #2: Less is more

Less teaching time





Policy driver #2: Less is more

- Curriculum planning
- Student assessment
- School improvement
- School welfare issues

More time for collaboration

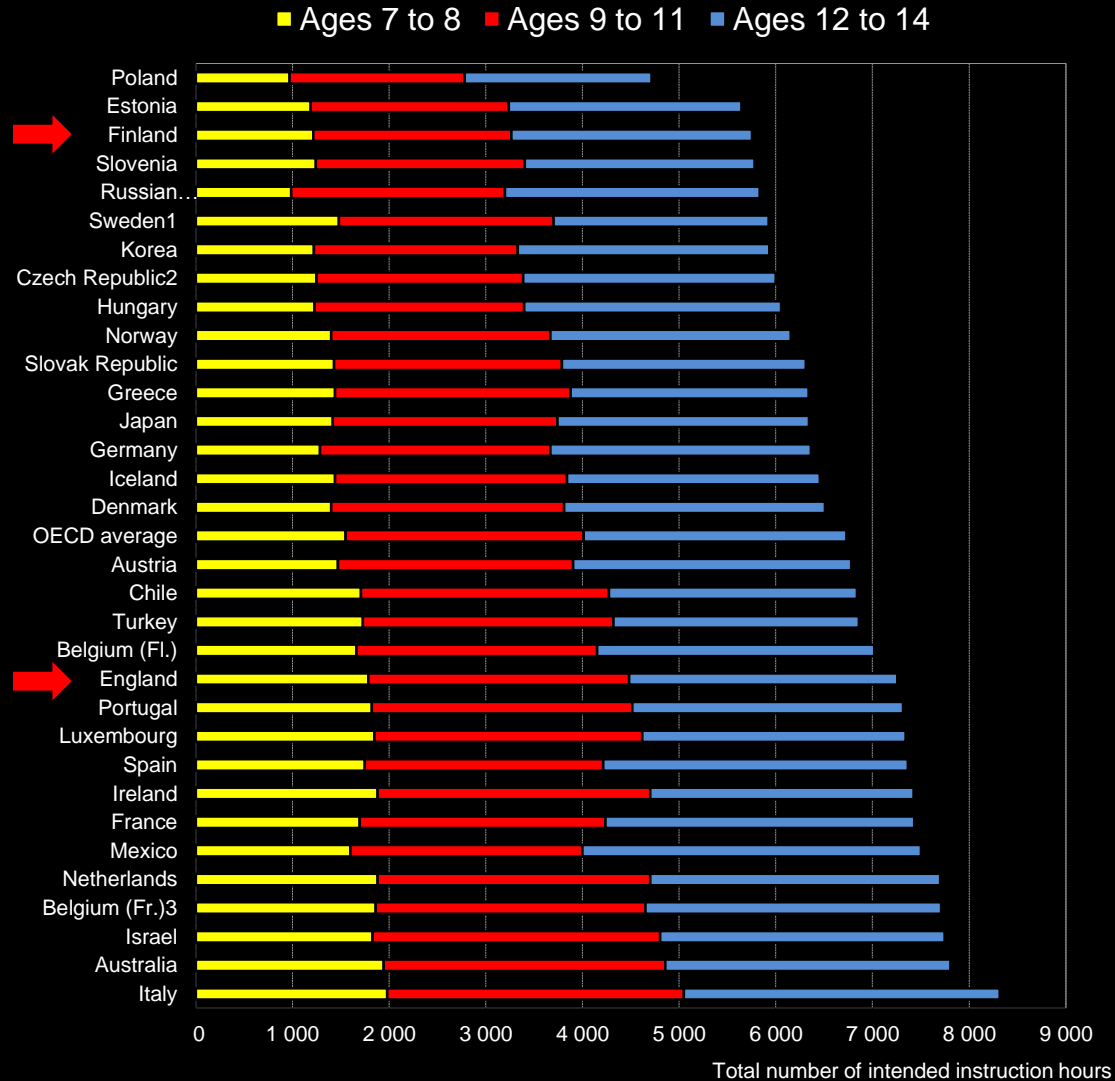
Policy driver #2: Less is more

Less classroom time



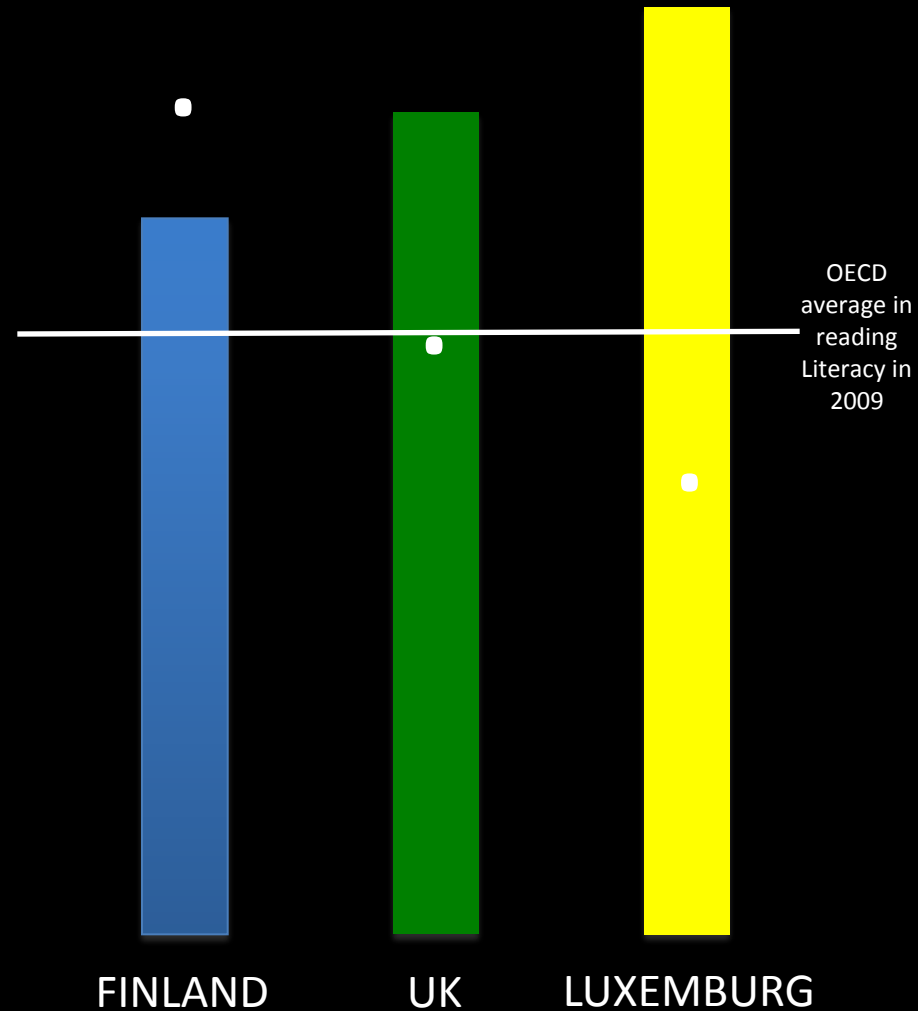
Policy driver #2: Less is more

Less classroom time



Policy driver #2: Less is more

Less classroom time
Grades 1 to 9 (Eurydice, 2011)



Policy driver #2: Less is more

“Less homework,
more time to play”

“The key to success in any field is, to a large extent, a matter of practicing a specific task for a total of around 10,000 hours”

Malcolm Gladwell: “Outliers”



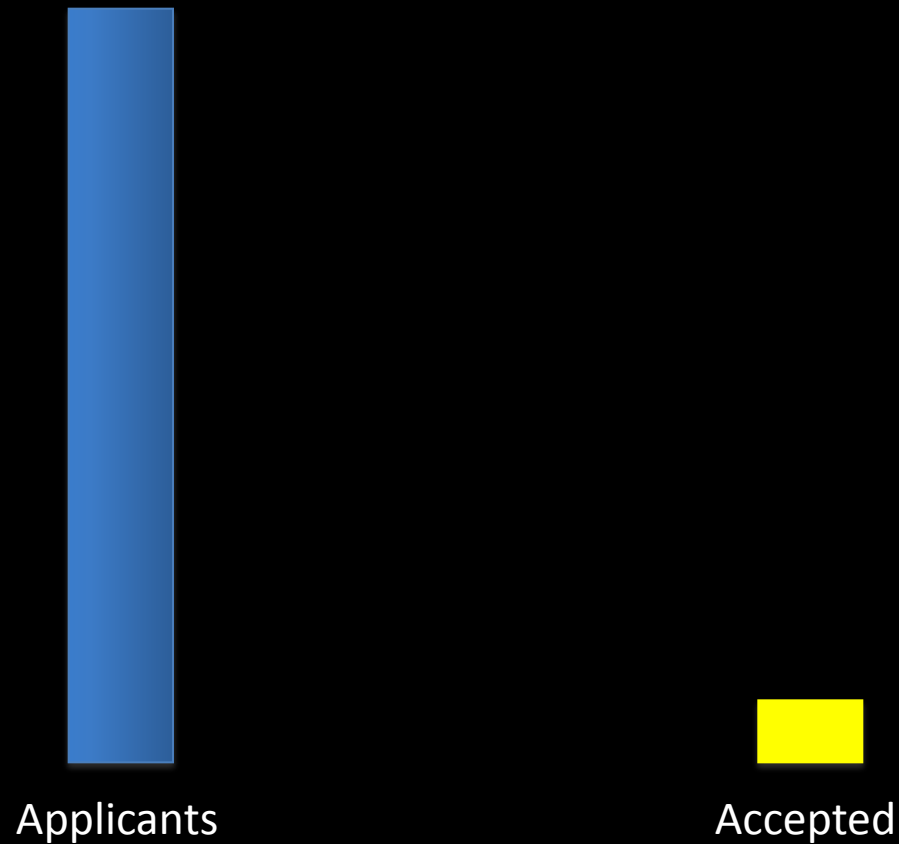
Policy driver #3: Teacher and leader professionalism



Veera



Only for the very best



Applicants and accepted to primary teacher education in the University of Helsinki in 2012

Policy driver #3: Teacher and leader professionalism



“The key to success in any field is, to a large extent, a matter of practicing a specific task for a total of around 10,000 hours”

Malcolm Gladwell: “Outliers”

Global Educational Reform Movement

GERM

Finnish Way

COMPETITION

COLLABORATION

STANDARDIZATION

PERSONALIZATION

SCHOOL CHOICE

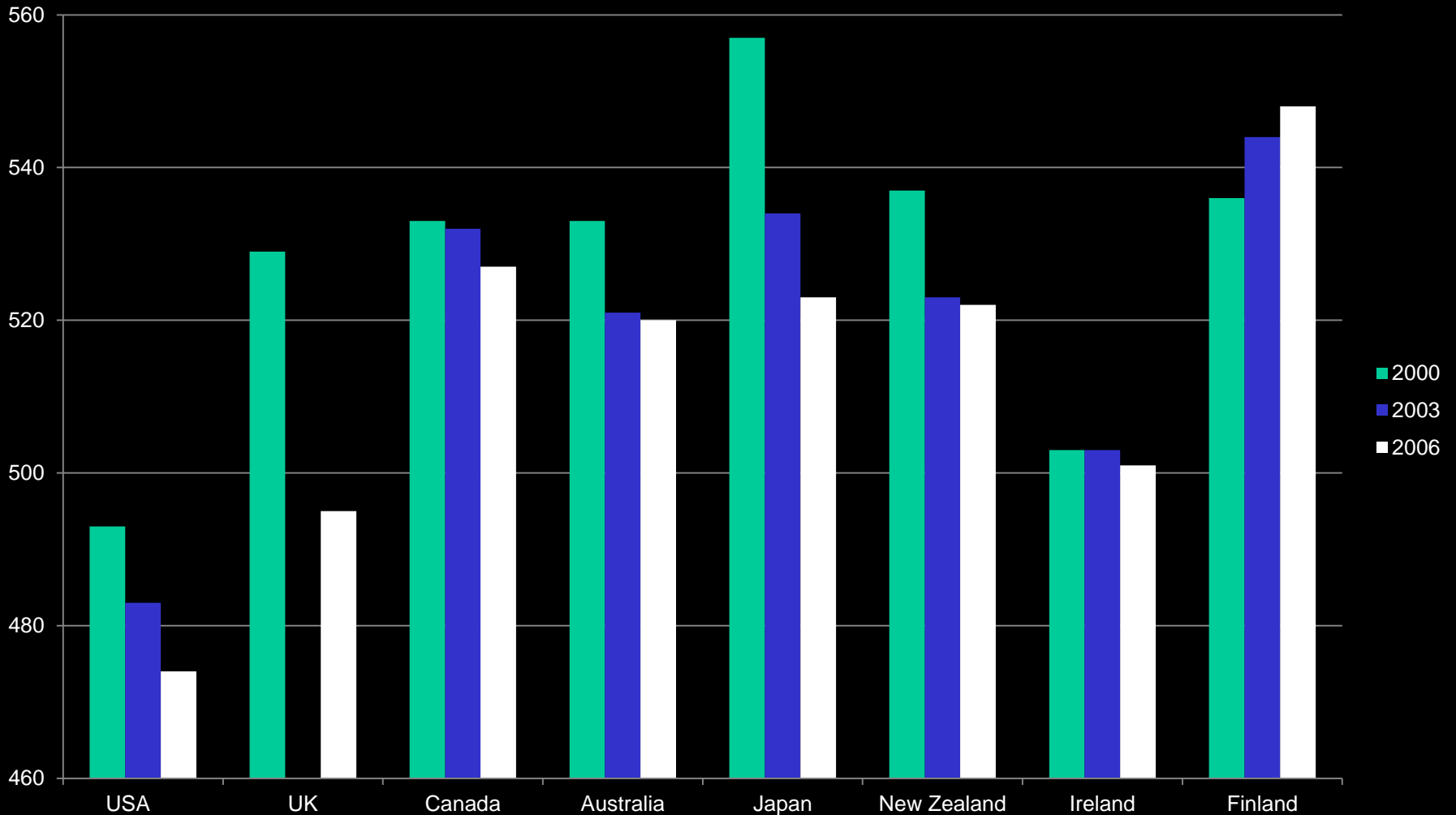
EQUITY

TEST-BASED ACCOUNTABILITY

TRUST-BASED PROFESSIONALISM

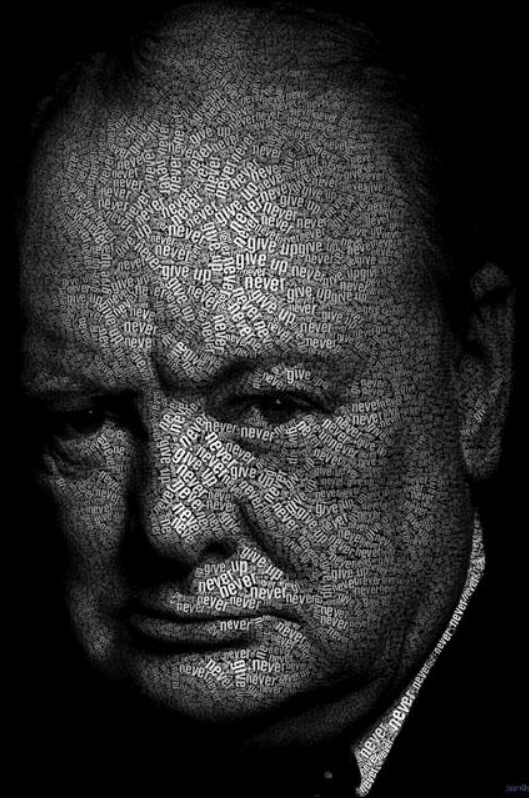
Does **GERM** work?

National averages of 15-year-old students learning outcomes in mathematics 2000-06



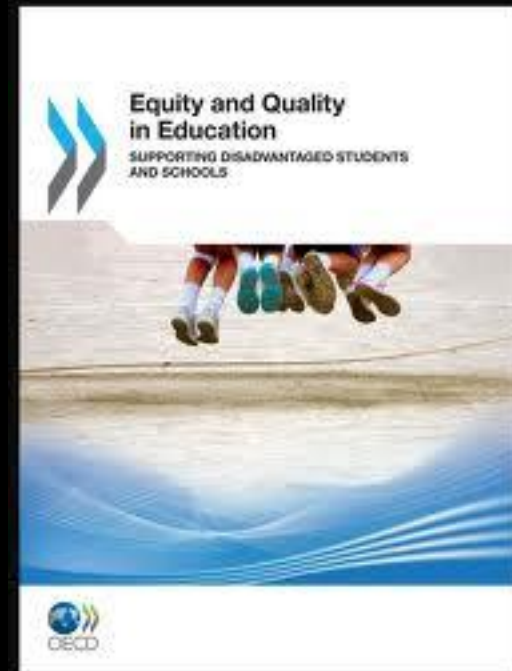
Doing the wrong thing righter!

“You can always count on Americans to do the right thing - after they've tried everything else.”



OECD (2012):

“The highest-performing education systems across the OECD countries are those that combine quality with equity.”



Finnish Lesson for England #1:

“More collaboration, less competition.”

Finnish Lesson for England #2:

*“More personalization,
less standardization.”*

Finnish Lesson for England #3:

*“More trust-based
responsibility, less test-
based accountability.”*

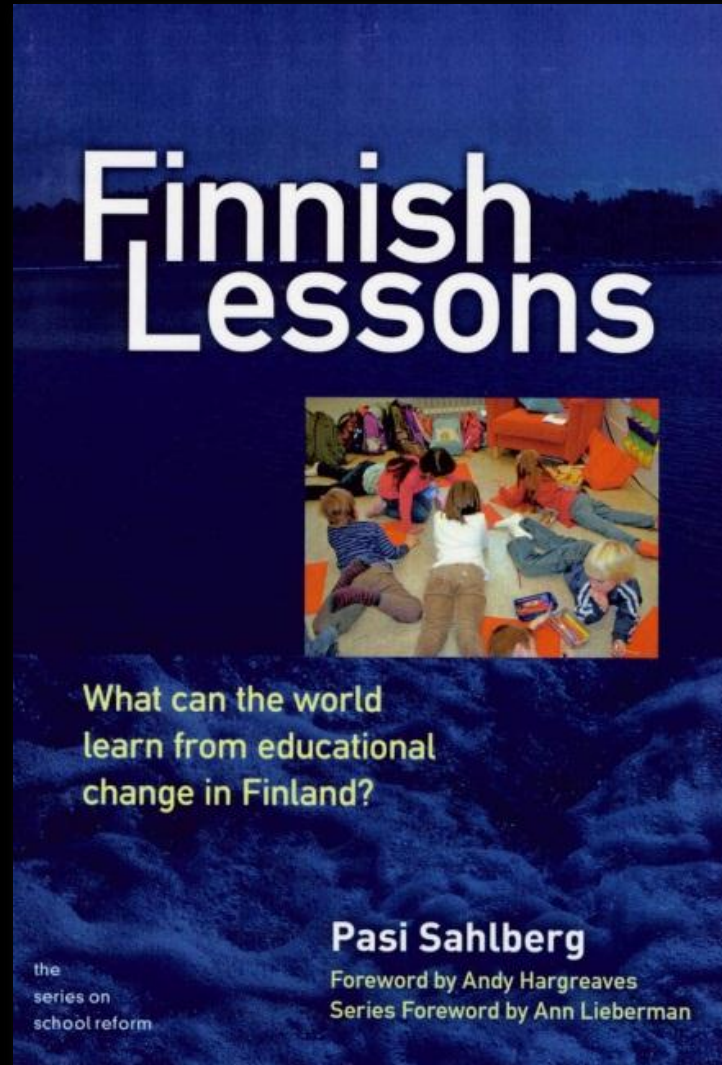
Finnish Lesson for England #4:

*“More pedagogy, less
technology.”*

Finnish Lesson for England #5:

*“More professionalism,
less bureaucracy.”*

Thank you!



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