

## Evolution of Mathematical Education in the Last Thirty Years

### 1960's

A peasant sells a bag of potatoes for \$10. His costs amount to  $\frac{4}{5}$  of his selling price. What is his profit ?

### 1970's

A farmer sells a bag of potatoes for \$10. His costs amount to  $\frac{4}{5}$  of his selling price, i.e. \$8. What is his profit ?

### 1970's (New Math)

A person  $F$  exchanges a set  $P$  of potatoes for a set  $M$  of dollars. The cardinality of  $M$  is 10. Draw ten big dots representing the elements of  $M$ . The set  $C$  of production costs is a subset of  $M$  that consists of 8 big dots. Circle in red the set  $P$  which consists of those two elements which constitute the difference between  $M$  and  $C$ .

### 1980's

An agricultural worker sells a bag of potatoes for \$10. His production costs are \$8 and his profit is \$2. Underline the word "potatoes" and discuss its social meaning with your classmates.

### 1990's

A farmer gets \$2 on a sack of potatoes. What are your feelings about making money on potatoes ?

### 1990's (Super-Honor-Challenge)

READ THE TEXT:

A farmer gets \$2 by selling a bag of potatoes.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONS:

- 1) Who sells potatoes ?     bag     farmer     potato
- 2) What is sold ?     dollars     farmers     potatoes