

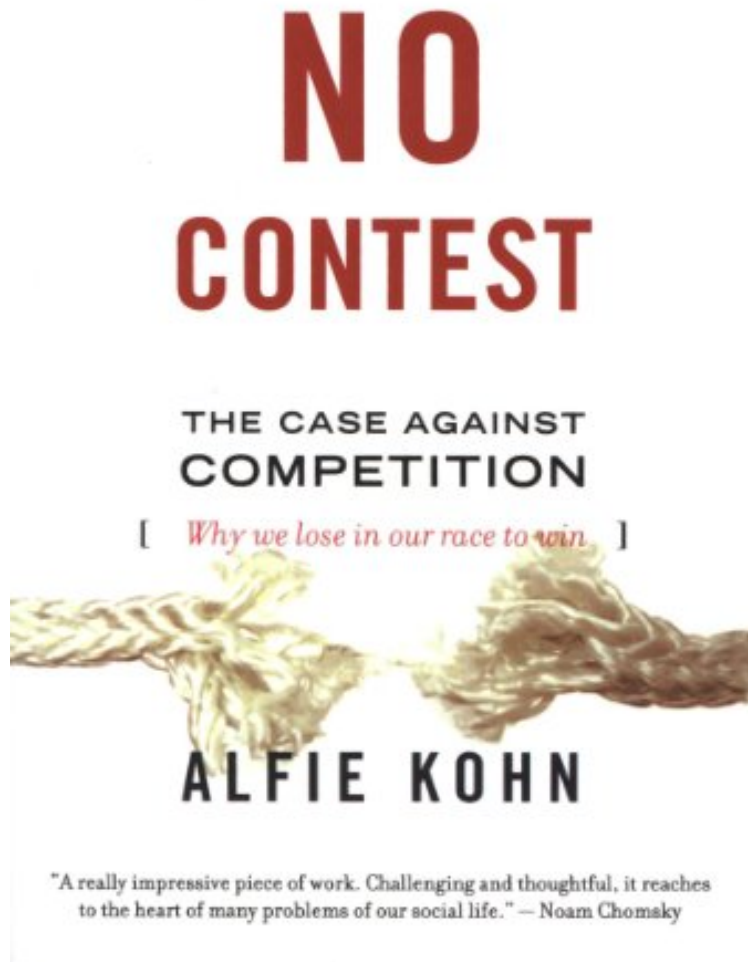
[Free download] No Contest: The Case Against Competition

## No Contest: The Case Against Competition

Alfie Kohn

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**Alfie Kohn : No Contest: The Case Against Competition** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised No Contest: The Case Against Competition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very good research on competitionBy valentinWell researched and put together, this book will make you rethink why are we being so competitive, and how cooperation is the key to the global success starting within our families.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good breakdown of argumentsBy Fig WrigglyGood logic and breakdown of logic, but it can be a bit run on and tedious. Other than that several points to ponder.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Miss DoveAn detailed, excellently documented book on how the attitude of competition has contaminated our culture.

No Contest stands as the definitive critique of competition. Contrary to accepted wisdom, competition is not basic to human nature; it poisons our relationships and holds us back from doing our best. In this new edition, Alfie Kohn argues that the race to win turns all of us into losers.

From Publishers Weekly Contending that competition in all areas school, family, sports and business is destructive, and that success so achieved is at the expense of another's failure, Kohn, a correspondent for USA Today, advocates a restructuring of our institutions to replace competition with cooperation. He persuasively demonstrates how the ingrained American myth that competition is the only normal and desirable way of life from Little Leagues to the presidency is counterproductive, personally and for the national economy, and how psychologically it poisons relationships, fosters anxiety and takes the fun out of work and play. He charges that competition is a learned phenomenon and denies that it builds character and self-esteem. Kohn's measures to encourage cooperation in lieu of competition include promoting noncompetitive games, eliminating scholastic grades and substitution of mutual security for national security. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Kohn, a journalist whose work has appeared in such publications as The Nation and Psychology Today, has written a timely summary of research and commentary by others on the psychology of competitiveness. He seeks to debunk "the rationalizations for competition" that it is inevitable, more productive, more enjoyable, and likely to build character. In closely reasoned argument he shows that, while competition is deeply ingrained, it is also inherently destructive, especially where self-esteem is contingent on winning at the expense of others. The book, which lacks depth only in its discussion of organizational behavior and the incentive for creativity, will provoke considerable discussion. Recommended for general collections and subject collections on social interaction. William Abrams, Portland State Univ. Lib., Ore. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. Contending that competition in all areas school, family, sports and business is destructive, and that success so achieved is at the expense of another's failure, Kohn, a correspondent for USA Today, advocates a restructuring of our institutions to replace competition with cooperation. He persuasively demonstrates how the ingrained American myth that competition is the only normal and desirable way of life from Little Leagues to the presidency is counterproductive, personally and for the national economy, and how psychologically it poisons relationships, fosters anxiety and takes the fun out of work and play. He charges that competition is a learned phenomenon and denies that it builds character and self-esteem. Kohn's measures to encourage cooperation in lieu of competition include promoting noncompetitive games, eliminating scholastic grades and substitution of mutual security for national security. (Publishers Weekly) Kohn, a journalist whose work has appeared in such publications as The Nation and Psychology Today, has written a timely summary of research and commentary by others on the psychology of competitiveness. He seeks to debunk "the rationalizations for competition" that it is inevitable, more productive, more enjoyable, and likely to build character. In closely reasoned argument he shows that, while competition is deeply ingrained, it is also inherently destructive, especially where self-esteem is contingent on winning at the expense of others. The book, which lacks depth only in its discussion of organizational behavior and the incentive for creativity, will provoke considerable discussion. Recommended for general collections and subject collections on social interaction. William Abrams, Portland State Univ. Lib., Ore. (Library Journal)