

## **Radicalization of Financial Literacy**

**JEL Classification: A200**

Financial Literacy  
Financial Literacy Education Research  
Financial Literacy Education  
Teaching of Financial Literacy

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## **The Efficacy of Financial Literacy Programs**

There are over one-hundred private providers offering financial literacy education in the U.S. today, but there is no consistent method to assess the efficacy or quality of these programs. Those who would see a populace making better financial decisions should be concerned. Without specific measures of the quality of programs, there is no certainty of results. This study examines the authenticity and reliability of the heuristics of these financial education programs, categorizing programs based on stated objectives and the degree of program follow-up. Due to the extreme costs of financial illiteracy, this research suggests that it may be time to radicalize our approach to financial literacy, making it accessible and understandable with the deepest possible penetration. This analysis addresses the issue as to whether or not these financial literacy education programs are valid sources of practical and useful financial information. The study also explores whether such programs serve as viable guidance for their respective participants, and finally, how such programs can help financial planning providers assist financial consumers.