

# Tracking students in secondary education : consequences for student performance and inequality

## Citation for published version (APA):

Korthals, R. A. (2015). Tracking students in secondary education : consequences for student performance and inequality. Maastricht: ROA.

## Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2015

## Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

## Please check the document version of this publication:

- A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
- The final author version and the galley proof are versions of the publication after peer review.
- The final published version features the final layout of the paper including the volume, issue and page numbers.

[Link to publication](#)

## General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal.

If the publication is distributed under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license above, please follow below link for the End User Agreement:

[www.umlib.nl/taverne-license](http://www.umlib.nl/taverne-license)

## Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at:

[repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

providing details and we will investigate your claim.

Propositions  
accompanying the dissertation

# Tracking Students in Secondary Education

## Consequences for Student Performance and Inequality

By Roxanne A. Korthals

1. The influence of parents on track placement can be restricted but never fully prevented by using test scores to select students into tracks. (Chapters 3 and 5)
2. The marginal student in the Netherlands is somewhat better off in the high track in secondary school than in the middle track. (Chapter 4)
3. Misallocation to a lower secondary school track does not necessary lead to worse long term outcomes for students. (Chapter 6)
4. Test scores for young students should be corrected for their relative age when one wants to compare results across students. (Chapter 6)
5. *Education is the silver bullet. Education is everything.* (Sam Seaborn, The West Wing, Season 1, Episode 18)
6. The versatility of economics, both in its methods as in its questions, makes economics such a wonderful science.
7. Even when some interesting questions are difficult to answer causally, this does not mean economists should not try.
8. All students, also those in economics, would benefit from a course in logic.
9. *Not everything that can be counted counts. Not everything that counts can be counted.* (William Bruce Cameron)
10. The design of an education system is best chosen behind a veil of ignorance. (In the style of John Rawls)