

THE ELEMENTS OF CHILD-PROTECTION

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The elements of child-protection by Sigmund Engel & Eden Paul

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SIGMUND ENGEL & EDEN PAUL

**THE ELEMENTS OF
CHILD-PROTECTION**

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BY

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IN BUDA-PESTH

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY

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PREFACE

DURING the latter half of the nineteenth century, the importance of child-protection gained a far wider recognition.

The nineteenth century has been well named "The Century of the Child." But there are reasons no less cogent for describing this century as "The Century of Socialism," or "The Century of Darwinism."

The intimate interdependence of child-protection with Socialism and with Darwinism must on no account be overlooked. It was my own assurance of this twofold interdependence which led me to undertake the study of the whole system of child-protection from the joint outlook of Socialism and of Darwinism. This book is an investigation of all the problems involved by child-protection from the standpoints of the modern socialist movement and of modern social science.

My work makes no attempt to be either a "Philosophy of Child-Protection" or a "Handbook of Child-Protection." For this reason it contains no definitions, it gives no history of child-protection, and attempts no detailed description of the institutions which exist for the purpose of child-protection in the various countries of the civilised world.

In view of the almost incalculable bulk of the materials available in this field of study, I have been forced to content myself with a brief indication of my opinions in the various departments, without endeavouring to go into details. Obviously, therefore, those in need of detailed information will not find it in this book. My aim has rather been to effect a lucid presentation of all the problems of child-protection,

than to attempt myself to supply the solution of all these problems.

If I have been successful in formulating the main problems of my subject, and if at the same time my discussions and the data I have supplied, enable the reader to draw his own conclusions in each case, my aim has been adequately fulfilled.

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