

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
THE STUDY OF
ADOLESCENT EDUCATION**

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An introduction to the study of adolescent education by Cyril Bruyn Andrews

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BY
CYRIL BRUYN ANDREWS



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PREFACE

THIS small book lays no claim to be a comprehensive work on adolescent education ; many volumes would be required to do full justice to the complexity and importance of the subject dealt with. The object of these few chapters is not to be comprehensive, but rather suggestive.

At the risk of wearisome repetition much stress has been laid on the pathological symptoms of adolescent development, and also on the evil and unnatural tendencies which are so strikingly characteristic of some who have the care of boys or girls in large numbers. Such subjects cannot be ignored in the study of adolescence, and, since in the past they have been so carefully and so unwisely avoided, they can hardly receive at present too much quiet scientific attention.

We are realizing that many school offences are due to the fact that the delinquents have had no share in the making of the laws which they have broken, and have taken no part in the discussion which has preceded their enactment. On a fuller recognition of this psychological fact much of the future evolution of our educational theory depends.

Anger or pity has also in the past led us into errors from which a little calm and reasonable thought would often have saved us. We seem to have been quite satisfied with good intentions, and our religious faith appears to have hindered rather than furthered our educational investigations. We are only just realizing that prevention is man's work, not God's alone, and that the sphere of religion is not merely confined to works of rescue.

If we look far into the future there is great cause for hope. As we realize that our children are educated by influences, and not by information, we shall demand a different type of teacher, and there is little doubt that our race possesses qualities capable of producing it. We shall look more and more to the child to guide us in the manner and substance of our teaching, and we shall discover how often the happiness of the adult has been ruined by the teaching of philosophy a few years too soon or a few years too late.

CYRIL BRUYN ANDREWS.

REFORM CLUB,

July 1, 1912.

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