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THREE DAYS TO CHANGE THE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Dream and Know-How Series #1

School: from learning knowledge to dreaming Earth's future

INTRODUCTION

Here is a series of little books, each one treating of a specific technique. One takes it or not depending of the needs.

The first one is not a technique as such but rather an observation of a main problem with schooling.

The main reason why a struggling student is struggling has nothing to do with his general ability or intelligence. It has to do with the speed with which the knowledge is taught.

The fact that the society agrees with the actual teaching system doesn't mean that it is right. It means that it is difficult to change such an institution as school.

There is a parallel one could do. We have a worldwide economic system that is actually destroying the planet resources, polluting the oceans, etc. We know that. We know it since quite some time now. We know we are flying high speed toward big, big trouble. Do we change? No. Why? Too many factors involved. Or, we don't know how to do it. Or, we just don't want it. Or, I don't know any good reason to keep at it, working steadily, at our own final destruction.

It is a very strange phenomenon. I wonder if other living species are that stupid – observing they are going to die and just carrying on toward death.

School has a similarity. The way to teach is really screwed up with very poor results average. Severe judgement? Okay, I explain.

The purpose of school is to educate populations. Agree?

Particularly, to educate the kids and young people to live their future citizen life.

Citizen life in which society? A country? A continent? Mankind? This is already far-fetched. The reality today is that the old world is over, finished, done, lost!

The old society was the one of the arrogant Man, “superior race”, dominating, exploiting, and just eradicating entire parts of nature at large. Without talking about slavery, violence, bad treatment of man by man (all colors and races are guilty of this one). It is civilization?

Today in France, you have kids committing suicide because some other kids destroy their reputation on social networks? It is a known situation. I am wondering sometimes?????

It was not my plan to begin this book series that way. But I think it is a good thing to mention a context. We go for another civilization. Many people and associations are working actively in that direction. So why not the school systems?

PURPOSE OF SCHOOL

For a student, the purpose of school is understanding how things work, whatever the subject.

It means to have enough basics understood and practiced until one has them down cold.

These basics serve one purpose: opening the access to other knowledge and know-how.

Example: when you learn grammar and vocabulary, you have to get it to such a point that it opens your way to understanding other subjects.

Why is that? Because you want each citizen doing his own part of the job later on.

This is the role of school – each kid and student having sufficient knowledge and know-how, at his level of capacity and within his own life choices, to do his job and assume his responsibilities within the society.

And the society today is not only one's country or mankind. Society today includes mankind and all living species and all of Nature in fact. A whole world able to work in harmony, fair exchange, toward higher civilizational goals.

The purpose of school is to form the citizen of this future universal and natural society.

HOW TO REACH THE PURPOSE OF SCHOOL?

By making sure each student is making the grade!

By making sure each student is able to gain enough knowledge and know-how to live a decent life in his future society.

That's all.

No, no, no, impossible! It can't be that simple!

Hey, it's like in chess. You make one move and from a lost game you win in one shot.

Move the teacher from his position in front of the students and place him at the middle of the classroom.

He stops talking to a class.

The students stop listening to a speech.

The students open their books and starts to learn at their own speed.

The teacher is not a teacher but a master. He is not talking anymore but guiding, helping and advising.

The individual student is doing the work.

The teacher is watching each individual student to make sure he is making it.

One single move!

One move and you'll change the future society.

THE SECOND MOVE

Tell everybody – students, parents, professionals in any field, everyone, what you are going for with school: which society? which citizenship? which future?

You don't look if it is possible. You look for one thing: does it need to be done?

The problem with politics is a problem of very poor purposes – no ambition, no imagination, no dream. We lack a worldwide body whose only activity would be to analyze and dream the long-term future of mankind in relation to nature and the universe. There are no worldwide plans.

Anyway, this second move would give school the general educational programs.

Yes, if you know the civilizational goals, you can imagine what the citizens will need to know to be able to accomplish these ends, participate, make the society prosper, and so on.

Then you work out the basics – the essential knowledges and know-how that each one should have to be able to participate.

We want a harmony between Mankind and Nature. We want to be there in the long-term future. We want to be free and stay free to live a decent life and prosper happily. Knowledge and know-how are the ways to make it.

THIRD MOVE, ORGANIZE THE STUDENTS

There are only three types of students:

The student who can and want to study. He needs very little help

The student who wants to study but can't. His willingness is there. But he needs help to various degrees.

The student who does not want to study. Maybe he can, maybe not, but his willingness is not there. By definition, he is not a student till he finds some interest in having a knowledge and know-how.

The following peculiar kind is not a student because study is both an award and a duty. It is an honor to deserve the right to being a citizen. One deserves it by assuming one's duty as a student: study and be a teammate!

This last kind is the one who is fundamentally evil. He intends to destroy others around him and acts that way. He is not working for the good of others, life and nature as a whole.

Whether bright or not is not the point. He is destructive for the morale of others.

His first lesson must be to be able to be a team member. When he is able to be a team member, participate and help others, he can be taught the other discipline bodies and be trusted as a team member.

If he can't and will not no matter what, this is the responsibility of society to make sure he will not attempt to destroy others or prevent them to reach the civilizational goals.

From those simple categories, it should be easy to organize the students in small teams.