

children who will be most damaged by premature focus on cognitive skills, bringing an earlier experience of failure and an earlier hatred of school.

However, if the government does decide to remove the compulsory aspect, EYFS could perform this task of rehabilitation, but only if practitioners can deeply think and act in accordance with the ideas of developmental psychology, embracing the subtlety of the infant world. Thus, our next step will be to press for the establishment of an advisory body independent of both government and education to help establish the means to more appropriate attitudes and curriculum - which could be the beginning of a new world.

CC 2000

('Implications' modified to clarify the early-years focus)

Old	New	Implications
Determinism	Indeterminism	Each moment is open to discovery/opportunity
Machine	Organism	Learning in every moment of interaction
Separate units	Interconnection	Empathy, relationship, togetherness
Atoms	Fields	Why we do what we do
Exact quantities	Articulated structure	Understanding involves sensitivity to patterns
Observation	Interaction	I accept being changed by what I encounter
Control	Participation	I learn to engage with the world
Competition	Co-operation	I look for mutual benefit
Freedom is illusory	Creativity	I find new ways of being and perceiving

1. Office for Standards in Education
2. "The Psychological Aspects of Child Development", Section II of the 1935 Volume of the The Year Book of Education



A Dog Session

Ulrich Kramer

We picked him up from the animals' home, because he looked ever so sad and friendly. He is a low hunting dog slightly resembling a Hush Puppy shoe advertisement. His name is Antonio. Because he is from Spain. Caught on the street he was kept in a Spanish dogs' kennel for three months, and when nobody came to pick him up, he was handed over to the killing station. From there a friendly German organisation rescued him and transferred him to the animals' home in Germany where we, another three months later, found him. He was estimated to be two years old.

Antonio turns out to be a difficult dog, a bundle of fear and panic. Any sharp noise, any rushed gesture makes him jump backwards. When he eats from his bowl the movement of the bowl on the floor and the noise produced by that, make him shy away. Unseen dangers lurk everywhere, in particular in connection with food.

As he is absolutely non-dominant it is easy to train him. Soon he follows the basic commands needed to take him for walks in town. Yet out in the forest you can't keep him from running away. Any animal track distracts him. He is gone for hours. In our house and garden he prefers to remain unseen. He takes his food, permits us to cuddle him, respects us as senior animals. But we aren't his home, his pack, his family. We remain strangers to him.

This went on for three years. Finally, after he had run away for two full days, I got tired of it and decided to give him a session. For this sort of thing I need my mindwalker (a galvanic skin response potentiometer). Its readings signify that I'm picking up sensible stuff, am not projecting or phantasising. I sit down at my desk, and mentally tune in to Antonio who is somewhere out in the garden. I see a noisy street with lots of traffic. A park. The legs of men, the snap of whips. His dog friends are rounded up and caught. He escapes. Then he sees food. And is caught in a net. Now he is in a box. The lid is shut with a loud bang. The box is crowded with yapping dogs, no space, they are mad, bump into each other. He is the smallest. Ferociously a hierarchy is established. Now the Spanish kennel. He gets mobbed, he is the last to get food, gets bitten. Loud metallic noises of food bowls.

Earlier scenes: his dog mama, warmth, friendliness. Then a human family, a child, food. Then he is thrown out on the street, he's amongst wild street dogs, big ones, gets chased any time he finds food in the rubbish. Eventually the images start thinning out, begin to fade away. Antonio feels released to me yet unlike a human client he can't generate a new life orientation by himself. I have to provide it for him, install a positive program in him. With us he is safe, I tell him telepathically, we are his pack, with us there is no danger, there is always food. This feels fine, I leave it there.

But no change came over Antonio. And so I forgot the session. Yet two months later I noticed differences. No running away in the forest. Being greeted at the gate with wagging tail. Fewer and fewer reactions to sudden household noises. Food being eaten without worry about unseen competitors.

Antonio has become quite a normal dog.

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