

Outline of (exerpts): EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

I. Conflict in the theory of education
avoid -isms

II. A. Traditional: subject matter as bodies of information: transmit
moral training as set rules: conform to habits
school as institution: is separate from other institutions
B. Progressive: criticism of traditional: imposes subject matter and moral standards

III. Progressive theory
express individuality (vs. imposition)
free activity (vs. external discipline)
learn by experience (vs. from texts and teachers)
direct appeal (vs. isolated skills/drills)

IV. Are these principles just negations of traditional?
Progressives: there is an intimate relation between actual experience and education

There are still questions: what is the place of study within experience
how is control exercised within experience
how is the past understood within experience

Many progressive schools: have little organized subject matter
have little direction by adults
have little concern with the past

V. Traditional failings regarding experience
the wrong experiences; boring
does not connect with future experiences

VI. Answer: the quality of experience: the long range as well as the immediate effect
Teacher: should provide direction for where experience goes
should have a sympathetic understanding of the child
Experience: it includes objective as well as inner
the teacher must know the environment
Traditional schools were set environments
Progressive schools may underemphasize the outer
An interaction of outer/inner is needed (e.g. mother caring for baby)

VII. One key example: Control
Every citizen is subject to social control
Rules of games: rules are part of the game
objection to an unfair judgment is not objection to the rule itself

