

Brave New World – Education

Text passages

Conditioning:

All conditioning in „Brave New World“ aims at making people like their unavoidable social destiny in society. It is supposed to form human beings exactly the way they are needed.

Quotes:

P. 21, ll. 21-23:

“They’ll grow up with what the psychologists used to call an “instinctive” hatred of books and flowers. Reflexes unalterably conditioned.”

P. 22, ll. 20-22:

“We condition the masses to hate the country’, concluded the Director. ‘But simultaneously we condition them to love all country sports.”

Hypnopaedia:

The state’s conception for the character, the views and the ethical values of a certain human being is realized - amongst other methods – by sleep-teaching, or hypnopaedia. Certain sentences are read out to the children for many years of their lives while they’re asleep.

Quotes:

P. 24, ll. 9, 10:

“The principle of sleep-teaching, or hypnopaedia, has been discovered.”

P. 25, ll. 18-22:

“Whereas, if they’d only started on moral education. [...] Moral education, which ought never, in any circumstances, to be rational.”

P. 27, ll. 2-6:

“But wordless conditioning is crude and wholesale; cannot bring home the finer distinctions, cannot inculcate the more complex courses of behaviour. For that there must be words, but words without reason. In brief, hypnopaedia. ‘The greatest moralizing and socializing force of all time.’”

P. 27, ll. 17-22:

“Till at last the child's mind is these suggestions, and the sum of the suggestions is the child's mind. And not the child's mind only. The adult's mind too-all his life long. The mind that judges and desire and decides-made up of these suggestions. But all these suggestions are our suggestions... Suggestions from the State.”

State Control:

Children aren’t raised in families any longer; they are educated in state controlled facilities.

Quotes:

P.28, l. 1:

(In the Central London Hatchery and Conditioning Centre)

“Outside, in the garden, it was playtime.”

Also read: Beginning of chapter 10 and pp. 138 ff.