

GUEST EDITOR'S FOREWORD

Almost five years ago we at *Educational Considerations* had an issue largely devoted to the social and philosophical foundations of education. There was widespread comment on the edition because many who write on foundational topics are apt to stretch the boundaries (or stiffen them up, depending on the readers' perspective.) I expect that no thinking person will read this issue and not take fairly serious offense to something in one or more of the articles. Such is to be expected when thoughtful men and women meet and exchange thoughts.

Although the last few articles that I have penned have been vaguely (well, maybe it hasn't been so vague) critical of the uncontrolled and uncritical enthusiasm of some of my colleagues for technology, I used technology to set up this issue of *Educational Considerations*. Almost all of the manuscripts in this issue were scanned by James Elliott of the Topeka Educational Center who then applied the mysteries of the OCR (Optical Character Recognition) program to what was scanned. It is all very amazing and deserves watching. I thank him for his efforts and hope that his soul has not been endangered by such close proximity to high technology—touch, pitch and be defiled!

I was holding forth on "Families, Metaphysical Dreams, and Villages" and our youngest son, Joshua, was chiming in with ideas which I thought were worthwhile and on target. We decided that this was truly a collaborative effort and so his name is added. It may be something that he will live to regret when the Postmodernist Horde completes its occupation.

These are articles which require some reflection, and perhaps some meditation—which is not a very popular activity in 1997. Sit back with a serious adult beverage and a good cigar—both delightfully politically incorrect these days—and in the spirit of Chesterton and Belloc, two curmudgeonly friends of mine who (at least Chesterton) died before I was born, read the articles. One can at the same time enjoy life to the full and yet avoid the hysterical optimism against which Richard Weaver warned us.

Enjoy the read!

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