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While all other creatures are merely born, a human is made, and what sits at the heart of his becoming is education. It is the essence of civilization, the transmission of knowledge from one generation to the next in an unbroken chain stretching from the dawn of history to our day. From its inception the educational system has held a dual responsibility, the advancement of society (through science and the spreading of knowledge), and the betterment of the individual. And while the former goal has always been a priority, the latter has been largely ignored.

Today's school system is an industrial process. Children, the raw material, are grouped by age, molded into shape, graded by quality and released in uniform batches. Everything that is outside the institutional guidelines is 'extracurricular' not truly part of the student's education. The fallacy in this line of thought is evident. Not all students share the same interests, nor should they. Each of them should be free to pursue their own passions, drawn by earnest and genuine curiosity, and not by the fear of disappointment.

The skills that form the backbone of today's educational system are horribly dated. Critical thinking and not rote-memorization should be the basis of learning, a solid foundation on which the academic, as well as moral progress of man can rest.

In this way future citizens will understand not only the world they live in, but also their place in it and will be free to seek the happiness they rightfully deserve.