

FOREWORD

This work on child play is welcomed for several reasons: first, as far as is known, it is the first work in Afrikaans in which a penetrating analysis is made of the phenomenon of child play as an authentic child and human phenomenon. The author succeeds in thoroughly discussing the phenomenon of play and takes as her point of departure the child in life reality as a pedagogic reality.

Second, the work is then expanded by approaching the phenomenon of child play successively from anthropological, fundamental pedagogic, psychopedagogic, pedotherapeutic and practical perspectives. Thus, the reader is able to acquire a broad view of the phenomenon.

Third, a great value of this book is that child play is considered and disclosed in its essences, an approach that often is deficient even in the literature overseas. Of particular importance is that here the phenomenon of play is concerned with an individual child in relationship with an adult. Thus, play essentially is a childlike form of living, way of existing, of becoming, lived-experiencing, and for the adult as an educator, it is a matter of and a means of educating. Play also is child expression and often projection that are very important in the life world of a child with problems. Consequently, in the last two chapters the author focuses on play as a means of pedotherapy that is illustrated by a practical example.

This work is confidently recommended for all university and college students pursuing courses in child play, play diagnosis and play therapy. In particular it is recommended for students of preschool education. Also teachers and parents who want a more specific acquaintance with the child and his play ought to find this book of great interest.

It is hoped that this work will be favorably received.

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