

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 pedagogical reality.

Second, the work is then expanded by approaching the phenomenon of child play successively from anthropological, fundamental pedagogical, psychopedagogical, pedotherapeutic, and practical perspectives. Thus, the reader can 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 which often is deficient even in the literature overseas. Of special 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, which are very important in the lifeworld of a child with problems. Thus, in the last two chapters, the author focuses on play as a means of pedotherapy, which 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. It is recommended for students of preschool education. Also, teachers and parents who want a more specific acquaintance with the child and his/her play, ought to find this book of great interest.

It is hoped that this work will be favorably received.

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