

Past Paper 2023 - Precis

Based upon differences in goals and psychological theories, there are three concepts about the freedom in education. Some people say, children should be given complete freedom, no matter how bad they are. Other say that children should be raised under authority, no matter how good they are. A third concept is that children should be given free-will provided that they must behave well.

According to the writer, the people who are in favour of the third idea are illogical; their belief of "innate goodness" is not applicable to infants and animals. Such people think that education should just further spontaneous development of children. But, the writer rejects their school of thought, for they underestimate the significance of knowledge.

The writer says, we live in communities where harmony is mandatory - and education is the tool for acquiring harmony.

He adds, the moral virtues like self-control and good-will cannot be grown in children without limiting their impulses. Hence, from a social perspective, the true education must offer something which cannot be acquired voluntarily by the children.