

About education system by Daria Shcherbatiuk- Ukrainian Girl living in Poland

The modern education system is a system of graduating slaves.

I am convinced of that. I am convinced of it because I see this slave in myself. A slave who is terribly afraid of making mistakes, who is always waiting for other people's grades.

Let me tell you something: A Dutch scientist counted at least 147 functions that slaves did in the home of a wealthy Roman.

There's one more thing: Ukraine's higher education system prepares graduates in 121 specialities and plans to even more fragmentation.

American universities already offer more than 1000 specialities.

This can be called diversity, or narrow and meaningless specialisation.

You can call it richness of choice, or you can call it fragmentation of knowledge and limitation of freedom of thought.

I would like my speech to be a question, a challenge and an appeal.

I would like you to disagree, argue, or find confirmation and develop a thought.

And I'd like us to start rethinking what is most important.

I do not agree to such system and I dream of a different one. But first things first.

And I want to start with what we have nowadays.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS SYSTEM?

The first university in the world, the University of Bologna, had four faculties: students began their studies in the Faculty of Arts, and only afterwards could continue their studies in the faculties of Theology, Law and Medicine. The Faculty of Arts got its name from the seven liberal arts: the trivium (grammar, rhetoric, dialectic) and the quadrivium (arithmetic, music, geometry and astronomy).

Before you could learn "profession," you had to learn to think, reason, appreciate beauty and the cosmos.

Now philosophy is "taught" for six months. Music, rhetoric, dialectic, geometry, astronomy, etc - if that's not your speciality, you're free of the unnecessary!

And have we become wiser and freed ourselves from unnecessary things, or have we given up something insanely important?

In those very first universities, the exam was always general discourse. That means no questions in advance. That means: either you had deepened your knowledge enough to debate and argue, or you were sitting in silence.

I am sure, that with the superficiality of our knowledge we would not pass this exam. We study to pass a test, answer a question given to us in advance, or write an essay composed by a GPT.

The fragmentation of education, the fragmentation of knowledge, the fragmentation of the individual is just what our minds have been able to come up with.

A full mind can create and synthesise new things.

An empty mind will never give birth to anything.

The fact is that this system is inhuman. It is a system of loneliness.

A real Teacher is not needed in this system.

This system needs an attendant capable of professionally installing into a child's head the knowledge that is strictly outlined by the curriculum.

This system needs typewriters who will produce tonnes of documentation without mistakes and on time.

Knowledge packers. Incubator managers. Benefit sellers.

The real Teacher is alone in this system.

The child is not needed in this system.

This system needs a flash drive to hold the right amount of knowledge.

The system needs a **grade register** in a journal.

It needs his grades and humility.

The seeking student is alone in this system.

There are no people, eyes, and hearts left in this system. Only a slave factory.

And also.

The worst thing the system has managed to do is to destroy questions.

It has become the norm to never once ask the most important questions in your life.

We're afraid of that. We don't want to be "stressed out".

AND THAT'S THE WORLD WE GET AS A RESULT OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

THIS IS THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.

I

want

to create

another

world.

A world of people whose eyes are filled with the sparkling energy of life. Happy people.

I want people, children to be winged.

I would like us to reach for the stars, I would like us to believe in the impossible, I would like us to believe in Honour, Loyalty, Love, Friendship, that's what should be important for us.

So what is the education of the future?

Imagine a school. Somewhere in the forest, or mountains, or by the ocean - among the majesty and purity of nature, stands a school. The front of the school says - **Nosce te ipsum**, as on the Delphic temple.

"Know thyself."

Can you imagine a school where your inner world, your well-being, your emotions, crises, and fears are the foundation of education?

"Children need teaching much less than they need love and understanding. To be naturally good, they need support and freedom." (from the book Summerhill - Parenting with Freedom by Alexander Neill)

The future school timetable is only a supplement. Can you imagine? It is only a bonus, the muscles of the skeleton, but not the skeleton, not the basics!

That is, worldview formation, emotional intelligence, philosophy, teamwork, learning about yourself, the most difficult questions - what is love? truth? happiness? are the main things about you. not math.

The foundation of this school is your learning of yourself, your learning of your path, and the searching for your dreams.

So how to summarize it?

The education of the future is the ability to answer 4 questions:

- How do I make money for myself and my family
- How do I live with others?
- How do I live with myself?
- How do I live if there is a God or how do I live if there is no God?

Learning about yourself through learning about the world. Learning about the world by learning about yourself.

School is your life. This is your growth, in the process of which you find your dreams, find the most important for you, and create your support.

We are bringing alive people back into the system!

Thanks to freedom and attention, children who are incredibly interested in this world will return to school. Children who are full of questions and a desire to know the world.

Thanks to trust, the teacher will also return. It is the one who will lead you by the hand to the truth about you and the world, to love for the world, to joy and happiness.

It is the one who will tell you that you have done a mean thing, and it is the one who will help you forgive yourself.

An eternal learner, who with his eyes looks at life so brightly and lovingly that it is impossible not to look around at the world with interest.

A human being. The truest and most real. Capable of feeling, living, loving and fearing, making mistakes and crying.

I know what it's like when the Teacher is next to you. To whom you can ask the stupidest and strangest question? Who will come to you and tell the truth about your actions? Which will point to the light, but will also look at your dark side and teach you to accept it and teach you to work with it.

I clearly remember the feeling of school - no one needs you.

And that's probably why I almost cried when I heard the story about my beloved Ancient Greece.

Ephebes. This was the name given to young men who had just graduated from high school.

These are young people of whom the entire nation was proud.

They were just beginning to enter public life and take their places in the structure of society. They have not yet done anything except graduate from high school, except for the beauty of youth and the youthful joy of life.

But Greek society carried them in its arms.

The parade of ephebes is a festive procession of young men through the cities. There, adults knew that they were watching a future that they were sincerely proud of.

The children felt that they were the most important thing because they were what would happen next, they were what would happen to their great country.

It was a holiday of beauty and love, pride and faith, hope and fatherhood.

What is it like to enter a life where adults build a world for you?

Humanity has accumulated many forms of education, and each of them has produced wonderful results. Montessori and their beautiful belief in children's autonomy, Waldorf and their attention to talent, human pedagogy and their love in every word, Korczak and his children, Scandinavia and their jump forward just on education.

These many ideas of pedagogy are taught in universities, books are written about them and seminars are held admiringly. But at the state level, we are still hostage to the old 19th century system.

We have a "single form" that creates a "high standard and fits all", but in reality it creates a single Mindlessness.

Human beings are multifaceted, they are complex, they are changing and playing.

The future is multifaceted. The education of the future should raise a vibrant and happy human being, therefore it should be multiform, diverse, open and daring. Education is not a single form, which can be stamped and the end of story.

The future is in the multiverse.

The mission of the education of the future is to shape an ethically mature person capable of creating and realising new ideas and through them contributing to the common good.

Based on the ideas of the past, it cannot produce the people of the future.

Either we create a new system or the past will swallow us whole.

EDUCATION IS LIFE. IT IS THE MOST LIVING LIFE ON EARTH, AND ONLY THEN IT WILL START TO RAISE HAPPY GENERATIONS.

education should be a happy and dignified journey of a lifetime.