

Children of the Collective: The State's Attack on Individuality

Editor's Pick. Written by Connor Boyack.

An independent thinker is an incredible threat to the state.

For this reason, statists throughout history have attempted, through propaganda and brute force, to shape and subdue society by controlling the education of the rising generation. As Hitler himself said, "He alone who owns the youth, gains the future."

Of course, the oppressive state is not threatened by an ignorant, innocent, and vulnerable child. The child is no match for the state's subtle tactics, wherein it wraps its power grabs in emotionally persuasive language. A child does not have the wisdom and experience to understand history and recognize its repeatedly occurring patterns today. He is not aware of how despots and central planners have worked throughout the ages, and therefore is unable to resist their efforts in his own life.

As I explain in *Latter-day Responsibility*, the nuclear family has long been the interposing institution to protect children from the state. Strong families defend their young from the state's attempts to snatch them away—physically, intellectually, or morally. They provide an environment in which the innocent child can better learn truth, and prepare to combat falsehood.

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