

that can provide him with a sense of his worth, significance, and power. He must be helped to know that the future is not mechanistically controlled by the past, but is created out of the decisions of men to sift out, choose, and act upon the wisdom of the past in relation to the fantastic possibilities of the future.

We must demand that and provide the conditions in which it is possible for the individual to make such decisions and pick up his life and live it.

To move toward such a partnership both young and adult must not be deprived of the face-to-face contact with suffering humanity which educates one to the realities of life, and, in our time, provides a necessary milieu for meaningful vocation.

Society must build its vocational structure to this end. In the war on poverty, one section of the Economic Opportunity Act creating Job Corps, provided the structure for such a meaningful, unique partnership.

Private contractors, in partnership with the Government, had made contacts with the people of the United States, promising to provide the academic, vocational, human relations, and managerial skills needed to attack the problems of a large, powerful segment of the world of youth in the U.S. community.

These youth are casualties of our school system and have been all but cast out of society—youth who are undereducated, underemployable, undermotivated, and often hostile.

The girl who comes to the Job Corps centers comes because she is not unmotivated. She is not unmotivated because the first move toward the Job Corps centers must be because she wants help. It is not compulsory education and she can leave when she and her parents or guardians request that she do so.

When the young woman comes to us for help she expresses her felt need in terms of vocation that will make her self-supporting. We will do what we can to help her help herself, knowing that a job skill alone will not be enough. We will have to help her develop the personal, social, academic, citizenship, as well as vocational skills that will make her employable.

Helping young women transform themselves from tax consumers to taxpayers is a very complicated, involved, multidisciplinary process. The entire job cannot be done or undone in the time in which we are privileged to work with these young women.

Nevertheless, they can be helped to see themselves as society also must be helped to see them—not in terms of their deficiencies and disadvantages, lacks, and low personal esteem, but as young women with untapped resources, with unknown and unused potential.

It is true that they come to us from culturally deprived communities and in order to make them move over into the positive column of society, they must be helped to a new definition of themselves as persons.

They must be inspired to dream, but most of them have to be given the "stuff" out of which to make those dreams. They must be exposed over and over again to new ideas, new personalities, new events, new ways of living, new kinds of people and a feeling that they, as persons, are important, and what they think and do has relevance in our society, and will make a difference. Right now all of this adds up to far more than observable profit. But, so did color television.