

Animals and Human Culture Week 1 Notes

Kellog Reading

1. Feral children
 - a. The Wild Boy of Aveyron
 - b. Kasper Hauser
 - c. Wolf Girls of India
2. Nature vs. Nurture
 - a. Developmental and hereditary defects of children vs. their upbringing
 - b. Why didn't the feral children respond to civilized training
 - c. Environment becomes less influential with age
 - d. The inexorable law of habit: complex behaviors are called character traits
 - e. Eugenics vs. eugenics
 - f. Instead of placing a child in the wild, they decided to place an animal in civilization
 - i. Professor Lightner Witmer
 - ii. The chimp must be given child stimuli
3. The Experiment
 - a. The idea was to see if an ape grew up to be inferior to the child it would mean that hereditary and genetics would be the most important
 - b. If the child and ape grew up similarly, then the environment is dominant
 - c. Got a female chimp, was taken from her mother at 7 and a half months of age and lived with a human boy named Donald for 2 years
4. Findings
 - a. Although Donald was taller/bigger, Gua grew more relative to her proportions
 - b. Gua's bones were 2 times the strength of Donald's
 - c. Much more muscular power and was more active
 - d. She had difficulty with walking upright and with her posture
5. Learning (not under pressure)
 - a. Eventually the desired ends were achieved by Gua's choosing
 - b. She had more dexterity in opening and closing things
 - c. She succeeded in task based tests more than Donald did
6. Conclusion
 - a. The hereditariness are similar enough to permit reactions to the same stimuli
 - b. The environment was the activating factor in bringing out the potentialities of the subjects for similar development
 - c. Non-environmental differences: her physical condition, smell, sight, hearing
 - d. Environmental likeness: upright walking, play reactions, many tasks