

Day care and preschool training are equally essential — not only to protect the neglected child but to reach him early with the head-start and hand-up necessary to prevent a lifetime of hand-outs.

Attitude training should be instituted within our schools as a co-equal partner of academic education. By accommodating the immediate and significant environmental and social problems of our day within our public school curricula, we can increase the awareness and ability of our next generation to respond to the challenges of the future, to reject all that is wrong, to respect and revitalize all that is right within our society. Prejudice and pollution, crime and delinquency, narcotics and sex should be approached frankly, honestly and promptly by our public schools.

Adult education and employment training must become a continuous, integral part of public education. The neighborhood school should be a community center affording after-hour educational opportunities to upgrade basic skills. Community colleges and ETV also pose great promise and potential. Above all, we must expand, experiment with and exploit every facet of our vocational-technical school programs. We will never eliminate poverty until we eliminate unemployment and underemployment.

In our efforts to cure social ills, to create cities which justify civic pride, we must search for a cohesive force. Education can be this common denominator, the cherished value shared by all Americans as the foundation of a free society, the key to progress. Investment in education will be supported by the public and thus is the logical focal point in our attack upon those psychic and social problems which prey upon the community. Certainly, the Denver Area School Superintendents' Council's recognition of education's profuse and profound power generated their sponsorship and the spirit of this symposium.

A keynote address is not intended to provide precise solutions but to frame problems and suggest strategies. One cannot help but see in Denver's past and present all the human potential to triumph. You have a civic heritage of determination in the face of adversity; you have the appetite to attack the problems; you have — and rightfully so — a fierce, inspiring pride in your community. You are on top of the problem and ahead in the game! Ladies and gentlemen of Denver, I salute you.