

To Study Dean

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## Conference Proceedings

Conclusions of the 50 participants in the Nall Conference for Young Adult  
Retarded in Malmö , Sweden, May 8-10, 1970.

### Leisure Time Activities

We found that:

Priority

- 2 1. We want to be together in small groups during our leisure time
- 3 1. Dance evenings ought not to be for more than 14-16 persons
1. Under no circumstances do we want to walk in large groups in town
- 3 There should be more possibilities for sports and exercises
- 3 There should be more evening courses in, among other things, alcohol & narcotics
- 3 The counties and the communities should give more money for leisure time activities and assist in getting localities for l.t. set
1. We want to have leisure time together with other youngsters of the same ages.
- 3 We think, further, that the economy of the handicapped today is too bad to make him free to choose activities or organizations he wants to take part in for leisure time.
- 2 To easier have a better contact with leisure time leaders, we think they should be in the same age as we.
- 3 We have all agreed that we want to have more power to participate in decision-making, especially with planning and implementation of lessure time activities

### Vacation

- 2 We all think one should decide ones self what to do during the vacation
- 2 We think travels abroad are good, but one should travel with other young adults of our own age.
- 3 The travel should be prepared with courses in the language of the country and information about the manners and habits in that country
- 1 We have all agreed that summer camps for adults should be banished.

Living Conditions

We found that:

2 (1) We wish to have an apartment of our own and not be cuddled by personnel and therefore we want courses in cooking, budgeting, etc.

3 We want to have a right to our own apartment but without priority in the waiting list

2 We want the right to move together with the other sex when we feel for it and we also want the right to marry when we ourselves find the time is right

We who live in institutions and boarding homes have found that:

1 the homes should be small

2 We will want to choose our own furniture and have our own furniture in the room

3 We will absolutely not have specific hours to follow in terms of returning, etc.

3 We want to have larger personal freedom and not as it is now in certain institutions and boarding homes where you have to ask for permission to shop for fruits, newspapers, & tobacco, etc.

2 We want the right to invite other youngsters to our boarding homes

3 One shouldn't have good coupons in institutions and boarding homes, even if it has practical advantages, but want to pay x with our own money.

3 When we are living in institutions we want social training to be able to move on out into society and manage our own

3 Even in institutions, we want to be able to go steady and live together with the other sex without having the personnel interfering with our private lives.

We who live at home have found that:

1. It is largely good, but one ought to move when the time is right to a service apartment or l.h. or something else when one cannot for his whole life be depended on his parents.

1. We want, however, to have our own key when we live at home.

Education

Special schools

- 3 We think 10 years special school is good enough but it should be more education in languages, math, contemporary events orientation, social orientation, good handwriting, social training, etc.
- 3 We think that the name "separate school" is degrading
- 2 There should be student councils which can take part in decisions about the education, the choice of books, leisure time activities, in school, etc. The same goals, of course for vocational schools,

Vocational Schools

- 4 We think that the vocational school should be 3 year but that the possibility for an extra year should be available
21. We demand more training in wider ranges of vocations so that we can have larger freedom of choices of vocations
- 1 We want to choose our vocations ourselves and have influence over our education
- 2 We demand that more time should be given for practical experience during the study period and higher salary during the practicum periods. At the same time we want to have study grants during our vocational education

ADULT Education

- 2 We ask for adult education in daytime either in study circles a few days a week or during a longer continuous period
- 2 To compensate the salary one loses during the study period we ask for study grants.

## Questions Concerning Work

- 1 | We demand more interesting jobs
- 1 | We do not want it as it is now to be used on our jobs by getting the worst and the most boring jobs.
- 1 | We demand that our capacity for work should not be underestimated
- 2 | We want that when we are working in the open job market the fellow workers should be informed about our handicap.
- 2 | We want employee councils at the place where we work.
- 1 | We think that we should be present when our situation is discussed by doctors, teachers, welfare workers, foremen, etc. Now it feels as if they talk behind our backs.
- 1 | We demand to have more information about our handicap and the possibilities we have to enter the open market.

To have a better atmosphere in the work setting, we demand:

- 3 | There should be available a room for smoking with machines for pop and coffee.
- 3 | Toilets with doors that you can lock
- 3 | Doctor and sick room available
- 3 | Own closets with locks
- 2 | A lesser number of study group visits
- 3 | A salary ~~is~~ sufficient to give us independence, because of the pension which we think is denegrating when one is so young.
- 2 | At the same time, we think that savings accounts should be voluntary.
- 3 | We think that piece work pay is tiring and stressful and instead we want higher pay per hour or per month.

## Last day of discussion

To day we have talked about what to do to improve the bad conditions we have found during the discussions Friday and Saturday.

- 2 | We demand that a continuous information should be given to the counties and communities schools, sheltered workshops and other institutions of our handicapped group about the prevailing bad conditions.
- 3 | We demand also a much stronger information to people in general through newspapers, radio, and TV.

1. We have today elected a committee of 6 members and 2 alternates with the following tasks:

- 3 | The committee shall continuously receive reports about the decisions of the national board of the ARC

- 3 The committee shall work for the general public and pressure the authorities
- 1 ( At the same time the youth conference demands that the committee shall participate in decision-making when the national board of the ARC is dealing with youth questions.
- 3 We think it fair that the National Association pays the cost in connection with work with the committee.

The conference today elected the following:

We think it fair of the National Board to take the demands we have presented into consideration and through the support of the National Association we hope for a rapid change of the unsatisfactory conditions that exist today.