

(24)

1 OTHER.

15 SEP 2004

Argentine Guest House  
Whiting Bay  
Isle of Arran.  
11.9.04.

To The Board of the Culture  
Commission

Thank you for inviting me to take part in Cultural Commission. I am just wondering from where you got my name? - And if you can consider my views as I am a Swedish-British citizen or maybe a British (one + ?) - Swedish citizen now as I have three adult children - and six grandchildren in England.

My husband was Scottish, we lived in London 22 years.

And I have lived here in Scotland now 16 years.

I was born in Sweden 1936.

3 years ago my husband passed away. I have lived in our cottage on my own since then.

My views might be a bit "multi coloured" - but it might be cultured of some interest to you

First question! Education.

I am afraid I bring some of my Swedish ideas about education as I was trained as a pre-school

teacher. Diploma in Fröbel and Montessori  
training \* training with sparse children<sup>2</sup>  
(what are they called now)  
for children from 4 - 7 years old.

As Swedish children do not start  
'sit-down' training (for more than 50 min  
'interest-centrum') to hopefully  
inspire their creativity - but  
if something else is more important  
to them that should be  
in charge - follow the individual  
child's interest with encouragement  
- let them take part in activity  
at home of course.

Free play under supervision where  
they as naturally (both indoors and  
outdoors) as possible develop  
their social skills, motoric training  
with their hands and physical  
development, artistic, musical,  
cooking, sewing, woodwork,  
creative work with clay and  
'waste' material. Outdoor activities  
Skiing, skating etc.

I think every child has an  
inborn genius waiting to come out.  
My husband and I was proud  
to see them develop these  
different talents - my husband  
more academic - I more creative.  
They have all graduated  
- more than ones.

However in old age I have  
challenge their education, healthwise

More from a spiritual point and  
more natural treatments

At our best we think a challenge  
is good - but at our worse we  
fall out - it does not feel good  
I still feel I have something  
to give 'my' grandchildren -  
but I suppose what we have  
- given our children now comes  
out in our grandchildren  
My son in law teach his  
children Swedish and my  
daughters and my son speak  
some Swedish. As well as all  
things new - it is difficult to  
see ones own culture diminish -  
but I have in my loneliness  
and depression not been fair  
- when I see the photos from  
my grandchildren holiday in  
Sweden - I am not this  
granny that just can sit ~~at~~ back  
- I would like to have  
taken more a part of my family  
- but instead I am more  
lonely now after my husband  
death - My children gives me  
no hope on better health  
I try - but I feel no recognice  
of my efforts - . . . I must do  
them for my self - but I  
am begining to feel tired.

and a little disappointed - like my life is over. Up to now my interests in garden have hold me - my son is interested in what I do - but my daughter do not share much with me any longer - it makes me sad - sometimes angry - which does not help our health

I am now on a little holiday on the Island of Arran.

It is so nice with a change I have made on my own - I do not want to go down hill complete yet - I long for some reunion with my family.

My son is my link.

My sister in law died in a fire recently. I have felt really ill. I hope to meet up

with my family for Memorial Service the 18<sup>th</sup> of Sept.

What else I am dreaming of big change in mental health issue.

3. I am sorry, I think I became very personall here. But as I say to my children "Take what you like and leave the rest?"

But it is best when I say nothing.

More about education: As a Pre-school teacher I understand that home and the first years training are the most important ground ~~for~~ <sup>to</sup> the foundation for a child's happiness and willingness to learn. Never ever told a child it is stupid or sub in any way. No one should be left out, not so much competitions, more teamwork, conceding each other from more points than they are best.

From that point social skills can develop to help each other, learn to listen to each other with help of a teacher - freedom of expression

... I have a feeling my son is a good teacher - my brothers when - ~~they~~ they had more patient than I. I had big dream and great builder -

but my patient has suffered  
for many reasons I am worn out  
- I would so much like to  
enjoy my grandchildren more

I find it ironical that I  
can ~~not~~ hardly see them now  
- because of health issues

which I have tried my best to  
deal with - unrecognised.

Anyhow this little holiday  
- I still find very enjoyable  
Old people still matter -  
it is a love for grandchildren  
and grandparents not to see these  
grandparents - but it might be  
reasons why not to - we could  
put it right with a little good  
will and understanding - but  
we must all want to.

Without family matters sorted out  
I have no more energy to move forward  
- and my mental health will continue  
to suffer

4. I hope I have answered  
some of your questions in  
my personal story

I am now a bit tired  
and I will listen to some  
music.

Thank you again for  
writing to me

Sincerely

Barbro E. Pallie.