

***Rudé Pravo*, Youth Discontent**

[Excerpt] The significance of topics changes according to how urgently they relate to the most relevant problems of society. And so I think it is necessary to touch upon a topic that has appeared quite often in our mass media, but somehow it was always a peripheral and a minor topic. . . .

The topic is youth and how we look after them. It is said that the foundation of everything is the family. Good. But today it can no longer take care of everything—this simply is not possible. It is necessary to understand this. School—that again ought to first of all provide an education. And young people's free time, their interests, their activities, and therefore their upbringing, ought to be taken care of by professionals, first and foremost the state, and society as a whole. And society ought to be interested in why educators at all levels, employees in houses for Pioneers and young people, leaders of amateur artistic groups and technical and sports teams, and cultural employees in general, are so badly paid and have such working conditions that only true enthusiasts or people who cannot hold down a better paying job can carry this out. Why is the material and social status of the bar owner, under whose wing young people take refuge mainly out of boredom, better than theirs? Why are conditions not created for the immediate satisfaction and development of the needs of young people? Why is there no equipment for modern sports? Why do young people have to look for it in the West? Just as is the case of their preferred participatory music, because we "officially" still give priority to the mostly banal songs of pop music "stars" instead of the really vivacious music, which therefore completely and paradoxically vegetates in the background (and into the bargain with the captivating labor of forbidden fruit)? . . . There are many of these "whys," but this is only a short contemplation, a gloss. I cannot dissect and evaluate the matter in a couple of lines. I can only turn attention to some of the roots that most of all lead to a certain social deprivation of some groups of our young people.

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