

cle 16, to form and join local, national and international trade unions of his choice for the protection of his economic and social interests.

ARTICLE 28

The States Parties to the Covenant recognize:

1. the right of everyone to education;
2. that educational facilities shall be accessible to all in accordance with the principle of non-discrimination enunciated in paragraph 1 of Article 1 of this Covenant;
3. that primary education shall be compulsory and available free to all;
4. that secondary education, in its different forms, including technical and professional secondary education, shall be generally available and shall be made progressively free;
5. that higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit and shall be made progressively free;
6. that fundamental education for those persons who have not received or completed the whole period of their primary education shall be encouraged as far as possible;
7. that education shall encourage the full development of the human personality, the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the suppression of all incitement to racial and other hatred. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial, ethnic or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace and enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society;
8. the obligations of States to establish a system of free and compulsory primary education shall not be deemed incompatible with the liberty of parents to choose for their children schools other than those established by the State which conform to minimum standards laid down by the State;

9. in the exercise of any functions which the State assumes in the field of education it shall have respect for the liberty of parents to ensure the religious education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.

A List of Desires

AT LEAST this can be said about the above declarations: They constitute almost the entire list of what might be called, "The Desires of Mankind." But desires are never rights, nor are they in any sense essential freedoms. Food, clothing, and shelter were not demanded by our ancestors as grants of the universe nor as rights they could claim from their Creator. The only right they had was the right to be free. The only grant they received was the knowledge of reality. With only the possession of this right and this grant, men and women began the struggle of survival and of development, rising and falling in the strange alchemy of human life in the changing periods of history, but growing strong and creative in spirit in those eras when life was relatively unshackled and free. Now, in the middle of the twentieth century, we are confronted with the astounding proposition that the "States Parties to the Covenant" somehow believe that the simple device of voting for this Covenant can relieve the individual of the responsibility for his survival and the gratification of his desires.