**Fifth Reading Analysis**

**“Healthy” Children and “Healthy” Schools**

In the article*, “Through no fault of their own”: Josephine Dauphinee and the “Subnormal” Pupils of the Vancouver School System, 1911-1941, Gerald**Thomson* mainly focuses on the problems regarding feebleminded children and educating them through special classes (eugenics platform to control the feebleminded[[1]](#footnote-1)). He delves deeper into many authors’ works and various journals to know more about the beginning of special classes for feebleminded students in different parts of the North America. Putting his main attention on the career of an early British Columbia teacher, Miss Josephine Dauphinee, he discovers how with the aid of local women’s groups, she lobbied successfully for a sexual sterilization law and up until the last days of her teaching life followed an outmoded form of mental hygiene based on eugenic hereditarianism. He discovers how the special class system developed with time in Vancouver according to the need and urgency. He contributes to the history of education in Canada by his deep studies on several authors’ work and by studying about various social reformers about the plans for mental hygiene and development of methods to educate feebleminded pupils through the mode of special education. The combination of evidences from the documents of Josephine Dauphinee and the works of numbers of authors makes the argument of Gerald very convincing.

In the article by *Mona Gleason, “Race, Class, Health: School Medical Inspection and ‘Healthy’ Children in British Columbia, 1890-1930”,* her main thesis is ‘how and which standards of health identified by medical and educational professionals were applied to children and how school medical inspection provides a window in this process’. This article was written to shed light on the interest of public health reformers in shaping attitudes towards healthy children which was bound up in concerns about racial and class “contagion”[[2]](#footnote-2). This article adds up to the understanding of the Canadian past as it reveals about the development of medical inspection methods and thought process of medical inspectors over the course of the early 20th century. Author delves deeper into other authors’ works and various journals to make her argument convincing. This article is very helpful for the understanding of various health issues in the society, reaction by public and contributions of reformers regarding the same in the period of early 20th century in BC. Talking mostly about the cases in BC only, this article fails to tell us precisely about the cases in different parts of BC in particular.

In the article, *"The Rising Generation": Laying Claim to the Health of Adolescents In English Canada, 1920-70, Cynthia Comacchio* mainly focuses on medical and social issues associated with adolescence such as issues due to lack of sex education, problems due to smoking habits, problem of use of drugs like marijuana, LSD etc.[[3]](#footnote-3), roles of doctors, teachers, social workers and most importantly the government to tackle against these problems which were affecting the adolescents socially, psychologically and medically. This article was written to shed light on the theory of adolescence and the development of the theory towards its modern form. This article adds up to our understanding of Canadian past by covering all the important issues revolving around the theory of adolescence during the late 19th and early 20th century in Canada. Using various sources as evidences like statistics from several studies done, journals and articles by other author, the author has given a convincing argument. For the knowledge of the theory of adolescence and the development of the theory towards its modern form, this article is very useful for its readers. Now as the studies regarding adolescence and sex education has improved the situations in developed countries like Canada but if we look into the conditions of under-developed nations, a question arises that if the condition is same in underdeveloped nations too.

**Bibliography**

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2. Gleason, Mona, “Race, Class, Health: School Medical Inspection and ‘Healthy’ Children in British Columbia, 1890-1930,” Canadian Bulletin of Medical History, 19, 1 (2002): 95-112. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Comacchio, Cynthia. “‘The Rising Generation’: Laying Claims to the Health of Adolescents in English Canada, 1920-70.” Canadian Bulletin of Medical History 19, no.1 (2002): 139-178. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)