Archives Digitised Collections

Creator(s)
Greer, Germaine (1939-)

Title
Soul - Love. see over

Date
1968-1970

Description
item: 2014.0039.0576

Terms and Conditions
Copyright owned by University of Melbourne. For information about ordering a copy of this image contact the University of Melbourne Archives: archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au

Preferred Citation
University of Melbourne Archives, Greer, Germaine (1939-), Soul - Love. see over, 2014.0039.0576
The vocation of a woman is marriage and in this she is called upon to be a mother, a housewife, a companion to her husband, and to bring up her children. Modern education for girls does not take these duties by any means into full account. It does harm to the future work as mother by causing the body to be retarded in its growth by too much indoor confinement and studying hastens the time of puberty like a forcing house. As in the case of developing the mind, does not even spare the body its most important pauses in growth. In this way, the present-day general prevalence of childhood, the prelude to so many ills such as lung and nerve troubles, is encouraged.

The ethical and domestic work of a woman as wife, housewife, and companion to man in his often exhausting and laborious tasks of life, suffers from an education which nowadays seeks "personal adornment and ornamental accomplishments" to make a girl only a desirable match.
for a man and thus assure the girl's future marriage
most practicably. These methods of education neglect
the cultivation of mind and heart, the taste for
domestically, simplicity, contentment, for what is
high and noble. It is only a hollow sham, it
puts value on encyclopaedic knowledge and abilities
which make a young lady a favorite in society
while leaving the true feminine virtues undeveloped.

Statistical data assembled in all seriousness that about
75 per cent of marriages nowadays turn out unhappy.
Even if this figure is put too high, there can be no
doubt that the woman so stunted in the cultivation
of mind and heart, bred for a life of pleasure and
luxury, can be no partner for life to her husband as she
should be. Disappointments in life on both sides are
bound to come. The wife is dissatisfied with her position
in life, ailing and nervous; she is incapable of discharging
the full range of her duties as wife and mother.