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Director's Project -
The Children's Museum
December 8, 1970

Future Seminar

The intention of tonight's sessions is to speculate about what the future might be like and how that will affect the lives of children and the education they ought to receive. I need the experience of these discussions to test out some of my assumptions so that I will be able to apply those assumptions to the task of planning the Museum's future. In addition to your ideas, I need an informed group of people who have thought about these issues to help with the planning process in the coming months.

Because we have a large group tonight, Cynthia and I have done a little planning to facilitate our work. We have broken up the evening roughly as follows:

- 5:30 - 6:00 Everyone gather for drinks and talk while Cynthia surveys your background for Seminar.
- 6:00 - 7:00 Entire group meets to hear what I am up to, how Seminar relates to that project, and some of my preliminary thinking. Then whole group spends a few minutes brainstorming additional speculations about the future. I present some questions for small groups to work on.
- 7:00 - 8:00 Break up into small heterogeneous groups for supper and discussion of questions. Conclusions summarized with magic markers on newsprint and pinned up on Conference Room walls.
- 8:00 - 9:00 Groups report their work to Seminar. All conclusions examined to see if there are any common points of view. What are the unanswered or unresolved questions? How can we get the answers? Is another meeting called for? Should we use another format? Is there something we should all read together? Are there other people we should talk to? We need a plan for what to do next before we break up.