



We must recognize in the children who are born today a preview of what must be developed in the coming generations; we must learn to educate prophetically. The fact is that we must educate prophetically, we must foresee what are to be the tasks of the next generation.

— Rudolf Steiner, *The Riddle of Our Age*

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## WHAT RESEARCH HAS BEEN PUBLISHED ON WALDORF EDUCATION?

Compiled by Sune Nordwall, Waldorf Answers Project, 2002

Through the years, a number of academic and other forms of theoretical and empirical studies have been conducted on Waldorf teachers, pupils, and schools. These investigations into Waldorf education have been published by universities, by governmental school authorities in a number of countries, by the Waldorf schools themselves, and by others.

Some of them are:

### COMPLETED STUDIES

1977

Matthiolus H, Schuh C: "Reversal of Acceleration Trends in Waldorf Schools". (In: *A New image of Man in Medicine* (vol. III): "Individuation Process and Biographical Aspects of Disease" (p 83-101), Ed: Schaefer K E, Stave U, Blankenburg W. New York: Futura Publishing Company, 1977.

1981

Leber, S: *Die Waldorfschule im gesellschaftlichen Umfeld. Zahlen, Daten und Erläuterungen zu Bildungsläufen ehemaliger Waldorfschüler* [The Waldorf School in the Social Context. Figures, Dates and Explanations Concerning the Educational Career of Former Waldorf Pupils] Stuttgart: Freies Geistesleben 1981.

1987

Hansmann O (Ed), *Pro und contra Waldorfpädagogik. Akademische Pädagogik in der Auseinandersetzung mit der Rudolf-Steiner-Pädagogik* [For and Against Waldorf Education. Academic Education compared with Rudolf Steiner's Education], Würzburg, 1987.

1988

Gessler L: *Bildungserfolg im Spiegel von Bildungsbiographien. Begegnungen mit Schülerinnen und Schülern der Hiberniaschule Wanne-Eickel* [Educational Success Reflected in Educational Biographies: Encounters with Female and Male Pupils of the Hibernia School at Wanne-Eickel] Frankfurt am Main/Berne/New York/Paris: Peter Lang 1988.

1991

Coulter D J: *Montessori and Steiner: A Pattern of Reverse Symmetries*. Holistic Education Review Vol. 4 No. 2 (Summer, 1991), pp. 30-32.

*Grund- und Strukturdaten 1991/92* [Basic Facts and Figures for 1991/1992] Bundesministerium für Bildung und Wissenschaft [The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research], 1991, p. 84.

1992

Thuesen M: *Hvor går de hen, når de går ud? En undersøgelse udført i de 9 første årgange udgået fra 12. klasse på Rudolf Steiner Skolen i Odense*. (Investigation of Former Grade Twelve Students. What do the Students do after Class 12? Investigation on the First Nine Classes that left Grade Twelve of the Rudolf Steiner School in Odense, Denmark. June 1991.) Published 1992 by the Rudolf Steiner Skolen in Odense, Denmark.

1993

Hallsten O: *Matematikundervisningen i fristående skolor*. Skolverket 1993. (The Teaching of Mathematics in Independent Schools. The National Agency for Education, Sweden. 1993)

Henry M: *School Cultures: Universes of Meaning in Private Schools* Norwood, NJ: Ablex Publishing 1993.

1994

Arvas F, Öhman H: *Kristofferskolan - en utvärdering från tidigare elever. Augusti-December 1994, Stockholm*. (The Kristoffer School, an Evaluation by Former Pupils. Aug-Dec 1994, Stockholm.) Vascaia AB, Nacka, Sweden.

Hellmich A, Teigeler P (Ed): *Montessori-, Freinet-, Waldorfpädagogik. Konzeption und aktuelle Praxis* [Montessori-, Freinet-, and Waldorf education. Conception and present practice.] Weinheim, Basel: Belz (2nd ed) 1994.

Ullrich H: "RUDOLF STEINER (1861-1925)" in *Prospects: the quarterly review of comparative education* (Paris, UNESCO: International Bureau of Education), vol.XXIV, no. 3/4, 1994, p. 555-572.

1995

Blunt R: *Waldorf education: theory and practice - a background to the educational thought of Rudolf Steiner*. Cape Town: Novalis Press 1995. Masters thesis at Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

Hallsten O: *Undervisningen i Waldorfskolor, huvudrapport 1995-10-16*. Skolverket. (Education in Waldorf schools. Main report 1995-10-16. The National Agency for Education, Sweden.)

Hallsten O: *Undervisningen i Waldorfskolor, sammanfattande version 1995-08-31*. Skolverket (Education in Waldorf schools. Summarizing Version 1995-08-31. The National Agency for Education, Sweden.)

1996

McDermott R et al: "Waldorf education in an inner-city public school." In *Urban Review*, 28(2): 119-140, 1996.

Ogletree E J: *The Comparative Status of the Creative Thinking Ability of Waldorf Education Students: A Survey*. University of Chicago, Illinois, September 1996  
Rivers I. Soutter A: "Bullying and Steiner School Ethos - A Case Study Analysis of a Group-Centered Educational Philosophy" in *School Psychology International*. 17(4): 359-377, Nov. 1996.

1997

Chirico D: "Impact of Computer Use on Neural and Cognitive Development" in: *Research Bulletin*, January, 1997 Volume 2, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

Esterl D: *Welche Abschlüsse gibt es an Waldorfschulen?* [How Well do Pupils at Waldorf Schools do at Exams?] Stuttgart, 1997.

Oberman I: "The mystery of Waldorf: A turn-of-the-century German experiment on today's American soil". Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Education Research Association, Chicago, IL.

Ogletree E J: *Waldorf Education: Theory of Child Development and Teaching Methods*. University of Chicago, December 1997.

Schad W: "Organology and Physiology of Learning" in: *Research Bulletin*, June, 1997 Volume 2, Number 2. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

Schmitt-Stegmann A: *Child Development and Curriculum in Waldorf education. Elementary and Childhood Education* (PS026174).

Uhrmacher P B: "Evaluating Change: Strategies for Borrowing from Alternative Education" in *Theory into Practice* 36, 2 (Spring 1997): 71-78.

1998

Willmann C: *Waldorfpädagogik. Theologische und religionspädagogische Befunde* [Waldorf Education. Theological and Religious Educational Findings.] Köln/Weimar/Wien: Böhlau Verlag 1998.

1999

Alm J S, Swartz J, Lilja G, Scheynius A, Pershagen G: "Atopy In Children Of Families With An Anthroposophic Lifestyle" in *Lancet* 1999 May 1;353 (9163): 1485-8.

2000

Götte W M.: "Erfahrungen mit Schulautonomie - Das Beispiel der Freien Waldorfschulen" [Experiences of School Independence - The Example of Independent Waldorf Schools.] Pedagogical dissertation at the University of Bielefeld, 2000.

2001

Alm J S: "Atopy in children: Association to Life Style". Doctor's Thesis from Karolinska Institutet 2001, Sweden.

Selander S: *Waldorfpedagogiken i det senmoderna samhället. En kritisk studie. January 2001.* (Waldorf Education in the Late Modern Society. A Critical Study. January 2001.) [A paper written by Selander S, commissioned by the Swedish National Agency for Education, to investigate the arguments for and against the demands by Waldorf schools to uphold a unified 12-year school and not be forced to

separate the grades 1-9 from the 10-12 grades, to adjust the Waldorf schools to the structure of the public school system. Incomplete argumentation on the issue.]

Schieffer J, Busse R T: "Low SES Minority Fourth-Graders' Achievement." In *Research Bulletin*, January, 2001 Volume 6, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

2002

Edwards C P: "Three Approaches from Europe: Waldorf, Montessori, and Reggio Emilia" in *Early Childhood Research and Practice*, Spring 2002, Volume 4 Number 1.

## **PLANNED AND ONGOING STUDIES**

1998

Smith P: "Essentials of Waldorf Education Study" in: *Research Bulletin*, January, 1998 Volume 3, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

1999

Payne K, Zajonc A, Hadley M: "The Waldorf Approach to Attention Related Disorders" in: *Research Bulletin*, June, 1999 Volume 4, Number 2. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

Smith P: "Can Waldorf Education Be Practiced in Public Schools? Learning Through Dialogue" in: *Research Bulletin*, January, 1999 Volume 4, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

2000

Anderson B: "LEAP Project:Waldorf Learning Expectations and Assessment Project" in: *Research Bulletin*, January, 2000 Volume 5, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

2001

Jelenic D, Barbier P-Y, Sun L-L: "Waldorf Science Education: An Investigation of Curriculum & Practice" in: *Research Bulletin*, June, 2001 Volume 6, Number 2. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

2002

Gerwin D: "Waldorf High School Research Project: Who is the Teenager Today?" in: *Research Bulletin*, January, 2002 Volume 7, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.

Payne K J, River-Bento B, Skillings A: "Initial report of the Waldorf ADHD Research Project" in: *Research Bulletin*, January, 2002 Volume 7, Number 1. The Research Institute for Waldorf Education.