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Margaret Mead

Contributions to Contemporary Education

 Springer

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Margaret Mead 1901–1978

Because early-twentieth-century anthropologists worked under very different circumstances from those of anthropologists today, they have become easy to criticize and hard to use fruitfully. Finding the appropriate use of Margaret Mead's work today is a goal she would have felt at home with ... In terms of legacy, she saw her field notes as the most valuable part of her work, but perhaps the most important example she set was her own development over time.

Mary Catherine Bateson

Using and Abusing the Ancestors: Margaret Mead

Pacific Studies, Vol. 28, Nos3/4—Sept/Dec

2005

This return to Margaret Mead makes no pretence of being a critique of the eminent cultural anthropologist's body of work. There are scores of critiques by her and by others which offer commentary on the range of her significant contributions to twentieth century thought and practice. What this monograph sets out to do is to look at one consistent thread throughout her life's work, the education of the young and its relevance to the present or 'future in the present' as she would have called it. It has been written with educators in mind who share Margaret Mead's commitment to those tasked with entering a future without our certainty.

She once said of herself that she was perhaps 70 years ahead of her time.

I believe she was.

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