HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY AT NEWCOMB COLLEGE AN HONORS THESIS

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Nancy Rogers. Household Economy at Newcomb College. (Dr. Beth Willinger, Sociology) May 7, 1990.

The purpose of this paper is to examine the Household Economy program at Newcomb College which developed in 1910 and continued until approximately 1923 when it was phased out. My study includes information found in Newcomb College Bulletins concerning the curriculum followed within the program and descriptions of various courses which were offered as part of it. Also included is information about the relationship of the School of Household Economy to the School of Education at Newcomb. The analysis will consider the School of Household Economy within the context of Progressivism which was a political movement that strongly influenced educational philosophy as well as other realms of society between the end of the nineteenth century and World War I. Aside from the details of the program and some of its historical significance, a look at its personal significance is also provided using information found in the collection of Kate Elder, a former student of the School of Household Economy. Her scrapbook provides a particularly personal approach to the study of the program. This paper attempts to provide information on a course of study once offered at Newcomb College about which little is known.