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**MORAL EDUCATION AN ESSENTIAL FEATURE IN
PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION.**

The fundamental aim of Civics is "good government through good citizenship." To secure good government, therefore, the effort must be made to secure good citizens. Good citizenship is closely related to the moral character of the citizen; a good man, other things being equal, will be a better citizen than a bad man. For the perfection of the State, it is thus seen, the endeavor must be to improve the moral character of the men who comprise it. The method of securing this fundamental condition of good government is a question of vital importance.

It is an accepted truism that good men are largely the outgrowth of virtuous children. The germs of moral character, properly implanted in the mind and heart of the child, usually develop into those ideas and feelings which we call a "sense of duty." On the other hand, a wicked or degraded childhood seldom emerges into a pure and upright manhood or womanhood. The foundation of those moral attributes that fit a man (or woman) for good citizenship are thus laid in childhood.

In the interests of the State, a system of public instruction has been established to prepare its people for citizenship. General intelligence is believed to be an advantage to good government, and thus the State makes provision for the education of her people. But since moral character is an essential condition of good citizen-