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**How to create a young revolutionary republican: on moral and political literature
for children and adolescents under the Jacobin rule**

With the arrival of the Jacobin government, the French Revolution became ideologically and politically more radical. The deputies to the National Convention voted in a law of unprecedented importance, introducing into the freshly established Republic a system of compulsory and free education, according to the *Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen's* 22th article which stipulated: "Education is needed by all. Society ought to favor with all its power the advancement of the public reason and to put education at the door of every citizen." Authors and moralists gave succour to the Jacobin government – a number of home teaching schoolbooks appeared at that time in order to help instruct the young generation which had become of first importance for the Revolution. Hence, the republican education became not only a duty for children but also an obligation for their parents. However, not only were those schoolbooks intended to teach children, but also – and perhaps in the first place – they were conceived to politically indoctrinate them in order to propagate the political and moral doctrine of the ruling party. Hence, children became an important but controversial political aim for the Jacobin government. Therefore, as interesting as this topic may seem, it has never been subjected to profound scientific research. The iconic Philippe Ariès's *Centuries of Childhood: A Social History of Family Life* (1960), selected papers included in *L'enfant, la famille et la Révolution française* directed by Marie-Françoise-Lévy (1989), as well as René Grevet's article titled "L'école de la Révolution à l'épreuve de l'utopie réformatrice" (2013) will serve as a general framework for the analysis of several revolutionary publications for children, including "alphabets", "syllabaries" and "catechisms", in order to illustrate the impact of the current revolutionary politics on the pedagogical matter of these.

Keywords: the French Revolution, children, education, schoolbooks, political indoctrination

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