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Children Are the Hope of the World: An Overview of Education in Cuba. color & b/w. 30 min. Lazaro Farinas, dist. by Cinema Guild, 1999.

Children Are the Hope of the World is little more than propaganda and, unlike the unique *Soy Cuba/Ya Kuba* (1964), has nothing of artistic or technical quality to recommend it. The video mixes historical footage with visits to a series of Cuban schools, where students, teachers, directors, and principals are interviewed. Unsurprisingly, all are thrilled with the state of affairs. The government is always "revolutionary" or "socialistic" and never Communist; it "implements," never mandates. Of interest to librarians is the claim that all towns in Cuba have libraries. Then the video abruptly switches from regular schools to specialty schools. The ballet school portion contains interviews with students who want to dance for the glory of Cuba, not their own. The militaristic routines that the children follow, complete with uniforms, formations, and salutes, are frightening. Very little new information is presented here. With editing glitches, repeated use of the same footage, a generic soundtrack, and a \$195 price tag, this is not recommended.

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