



The State Boys Rebellion

Michael D'Antonio

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The State Boys Rebellion

Michael D'Antonio

The State Boys Rebellion Michael D'Antonio

At age seven, an orphan boy named Freddie Boyce finally believed he had found a real home with a kindly widow who raised foster children on her farm in rural Massachusetts. But when his foster mother died in the winter of 1949, Freddie was subjected to a rudimentary IQ test and then sent to a state institution for the feeble-minded. There, along with other relatively normal State Boys, he would endure neglect, abuse, and terror and live without the hope of ever being free again.

Though they couldn't possible know it, the children of the Fernald State School were the victims of bad science and a newly developed bureaucracy designed to save America from the so-called "menace of the feeble-minded." Beginning early in the twentieth century, United States health officials used crude versions of the modern IQ tests to identify supposedly "deficient" children and lock them away. The idea was to protect society from potential criminals and to prevent so-called *undesirables* from having children and degrading the American gene pool.

Under programs that existed in almost every state and continued into the 1970s, more than 250,000 children were separated from their families. Tens of thousands of these were not disabled but merely unwanted orphans, truants, or delinquents. Yet they were denied proper education, routinely abused, and could be subjected to forced surgical sterilization, lobotomy, shock therapy, and psychotropic drugs.

The State Boys Rebellion is the dramatic and meticulously researched true story of Fred Boyce and a group of boys who never accepted their incarceration at the Fernald State School in Massachusetts and insisted they were normal. In many cases, school officials noted that they were not disabled and did not belong in an institution. But the school depended on their unpaid labor, and so they were kept locked away in wards where many were beaten, raped, forced to fight each other. They were offered no hope for freedom and knew that others had grown old and died within Fernald's walls.

Inspired by what they learned from television and radio about the national civil rights movement, the State Boys protested their mistreatment, pleaded in vain for their freedom, and rebelled by running away. Finally, in a desperate attempt to get attention for their plight, they seized control of a prisonlike ward and demanded their rights. Although the participants in this dramatic event were imprisoned for their actions, the takeover eventually led to freedom for many State Boys, who were given minimal training and then released to fend for themselves.

In these pages, the reader will learn how the State Boys struggle to survive without family, social connections, or education. Some never adjust and die of alcohol and drug abuse. Others manage to build stable lives, with good jobs, family, and friends. While they try to forget the past, it all comes rushing back in the 1990s when news reports announce that they had been used as human guinea pigs in Cold War experiments in which they were fed radioactive oatmeal. Under Fred Boyce's leadership, the State Boys reunite, sue, and win a multimillion-dollar settlement.

To capture this story, award-winning journalist Michael D'Antonio worked closely with the surviving State Boys, interviewed former Fernald teachers and professionals, used the archives of the school, and won the release of previously sealed papers. The result is a thoroughly documented story from an almost-forgotten corner of American history. It reveals the danger in misguided science, the fearsome power of unchecked

bureaucracies, and the remarkable resilience of the human spirit.

 [**Download** The State Boys Rebellion ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** The State Boys Rebellion ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The State Boys Rebellion Michael D'Antonio

From reader reviews:

Jeffrey Thompson:

Within other case, little folks like to read book The State Boys Rebellion. You can choose the best book if you'd prefer reading a book. Provided that we know about how is important any book The State Boys Rebellion. You can add expertise and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, mainly because from book you can learn everything! From your country till foreign or abroad you will find yourself known. About simple matter until wonderful thing you can know that. In this era, we are able to open a book or maybe searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You can use it when you feel bored stiff to go to the library. Let's study.

John Solorio:

This book untitled The State Boys Rebellion to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, here is because when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book retail outlet or you can order it through online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, as you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason to you to past this e-book from your list.

Linda Williams:

The State Boys Rebellion can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The State Boys Rebellion nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information can drawn you into brand new stage of crucial thinking.

Carol Rosborough:

With this era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. On the list of books in the top checklist in your reading list is actually The State Boys Rebellion. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking way up and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

Download and Read Online The State Boys Rebellion Michael D'Antonio #MGAY0PTD5JI

Read The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio for online ebook

The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio books to read online.

Online The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio ebook PDF download

The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio Doc

The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio Mobipocket

The State Boys Rebellion by Michael D'Antonio EPub