

LBST 330 – Fall 2018 Module 2 – Research in Context

Answer the Question Assignment Guidelines

Reading: List of Articles

Bianca Paun

Response # 4

From various articles provided to us, Henry Grioux' article "*Rethinking Education as the Practice of Freedom: Paulo Freire and the Promise of Critical Pedagogy*" appealed my attention.

For my future projects, Grioux' article inspires me to explore and evaluate the function of literacy and the types of educational practices that conduct to better learning outcomes.

Contemplating on the article's ideas that I can adapt and use for my upcoming project(s) I realized that education plays an important role for constructing a better world. Each culture and social system gave education different meanings and purpose. From the humanist perspective, education promotes knowledge for the ascension of man. In Paulo Freire's opinion "literacy was not a means to prepare students for the world of subordinated labor" or "careers," but a preparation for a self-managed life". The path to achieve a self-managed life it is only possible through self-actualization and self-realization.

Contrasting Freire's humanist perspective, the Marxist / Leninist viewpoint on the role of education, maintains a form of mechanical education that prepares the child to serve the State. Similar to this standpoint the Capitalist perspective is an adaptation of the State mentality, which suits the market economy, and focusses on winning money or finding a better job.

As my projects will investigate and compare educational methods that apply in two different cultural environments (Spain and Canada); I can investigate these methods from a critical perspective, and to highlight the positive aspects of each one.

My takes from Freire's pedagogy as a practice of freedom are dialogue and critical thinking. Freire, "believed that human life is conditioned, not determined, and the crucial necessity of not only reading the world critically but also intervening in the larger social order[...]" (Giroux, H. 2010).

As an educator, I have a duty to offer my students the opportunity to see, to recognize what oppresses them. As a follow graduate of Liberal Studies, I have a duty to pledge the importance of the dialogue and of the critical thinking. These being said, I envision my projects as an accurate comparison of two educational systems ; a pictogram able to reproduce a glimpse on how each of the system engages in a constructive dialogue with the aim of identifying relevant issues in students' lives, in order to prepare them to solve them . I also visualize my project as a call to explore, to conceive, to put into practice, to constantly question the pedagogies and ultimately to reach their true potential.

Giroux, H. A. (December 01, 2010). Rethinking Education as the Practice of Freedom: Paulo Freire and the Promise of Critical Pedagogy. *Policy Futures in Education*, 8, 6, 715-721.