What does it mean to be educated have read: kozol; kohn; noddings; aronowitz; spr...

Education



What Does it Mean to be Educated? - Reflection What Does it Mean to be Educated? - Reflection The concept of education is a complex one and keeps evolving with the time. In the thought of Hinchey (2006) the classroom setting plays a major role in the learning process. The author is keen to indicate that the teachers must be well placed to study the environments of their learners so as they can teach and attain the expected goals (Hinchey, 2006). It is evident that lots of teachers have continually preferred teaching in cultures and environments where they are conversant with or prefer. It is this fact that leads to Hinchey's (2006) recommendation that teachers think about the children of others so as they design appropriate ways of teaching. I concur with the author's sentiments as not all learners are the same, and it is the obligation of the tutor to ensure that all the learners are engaged in the learning process if education has to take place. With the growing trend in the population in schools that embrace diversity, this aspect cannot be ignored. Hinchey (2006) indicates that in every four school going kids, one of them is of a different race as opposed to the Whites.

On the part of Spring (2011), education takes the shape of emancipating people from issues such as poverty as through education, individuals are taught skills that instill values that give permanent solutions to life. With the many objectives of education outlined by Spring (2011) such as social restoration of the society and active citizenship, I concur with the authors' argument that education in America has solely focused on the human capital doctrines. It is expected that the present population will lack the values of creating a future generation that will have strong values in terms of morals, culture and nationalism. It is also evident that the human capital ideas will

not impart lasting values that education is supposed to offer, as the principles of this ideology will create enough jobs for the graduates at present. The graduates may end up not having something permanent to do with the skills they acquire. This kind of education may, therefore, not be termed as successful.

I agree with Spring (2011) when he indicates that it is important to reduce the gap between the rich and poor learners in class. The author continues to say that this is possible if the public reporting of the scores, the creation of universal curriculum expectations and the closure of the non –performing schools is followed to the letter (Spring, 2011).

Education, for Spring (2011) is an intricate matter and needs to be closely checked so as to maintain the standards. The author is of the thought that education levels determine the extent of brain drain, gain and re-circulation. Global standards of education will then be determined by the standards each state offers and maintains. It is, therefore, worth to conclude that education matters are of great importance and are the key to the future of a nation. References

Hinchey, P. (2006). "Expanding Our Thinking: Learning about "Other people's Children". In Becoming a Critical Educator: Defining a Classroom Identity, Designing a Critical Pedagogy. New York: Peter Lang.

Spring, J. (2011). The Politics of American Education. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.