

## Key Ideas Education and Training In Social Context

### Informal Education

- Primary socialisation (learning of basic values, roles, statuses, norms, etc)
- Family groups, Peer groups, etc.
- Social control
- Self concept / self development (Mead - The Self, the "I" and the "Me")

### Formal Education

- Secondary socialisation / Social control
- Historical development in England and Wales:
- 1870 Elementary Education Act (Forster)
  - 1918 Education Act (Fisher)
  - 1944 Education Act (Butler): Tripartite system. Based on work of Burt
  - Grammar / Secondary Modern / Technical
  - 1965 Circular 10/65 (Comprehensive schooling)
  - 1975 Williams (Labour): Widespread introduction of Comprehensive schooling
  - 1980 Education Act (Assisted Places scheme)
  - 1988 Education Reform Act (National Curriculum, Key Stage testing, Local management of schools, Grant-maintained status ("opting-out").
  - Marketisation of schooling (University fees / Foundation schools)
  - 2010: Free schools

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### Cultural Transmission

- Processes by which different societies, cultures (e.g. social classes) and subcultures transmit different values, beliefs (ideologies), norms.
- Agencies: Family, Work, Religion, Media, Education.

### Cultural Reproduction

- Process by which different societies, cultures and subcultures reproduce themselves (socialisation) and relations of dominance / subordination.
- Agencies: Education, Media, Religion, Family, Work.
- The above can be linked to:
- Different theories of society (Functionalist, Marxist, Interactionist, Feminist, etc.)
- Different theories of role of education within society (Functionalist, Marxist, Interactionist, Feminist, Deschoolers, etc.)
- The Formal curriculum (content, social construction of, etc.)
- The Hidden curriculum (the experience of schooling, social learning, etc.)
- Differential Achievement (Class, Gender, Ethnicity)

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### Perspectives on Cultural Transmission and Reproduction in Education

#### Functionalism

- Socialisation (secondary) - Learning instrumental relationships
- Allocation (of individuals into future adult roles)
- Differentiation (selection process)
- Meritocracy
- Social stratification - academic and vocational training
- Transmission of societal values and norms
- Reproduction of society

#### Marxism

- Transmission of ruling class ideologies through organised education:
- "Ideological State Apparatuses" (ISA's) and
- "Repressive State Apparatuses" (RSA's)- Althusser
- Dominant Ideology
- Cultural Hegemony (Gramsci, Poulantzas)
- Relative autonomy (of education system from other institutions - Giroux)
- Correspondence Theory (Bowles and Gintis)
- Cultural Capital (Bourdieu and Passeron)
- Reproduction of social inequality (structured inequality)

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### Alternatives to Traditional Forms of Education

Radical: Philosophical opposition to traditional school organisations:

- Summerhill (private, democratic)
  - Steiner Schools (education through play - informal learning)
- Mainstream: Different forms of traditional school organisations
- City Technology Colleges (based around Information Technology)
  - Magnet schools (specialise in particular subjects - eg. Music, Languages)
  - Supplemental: Additional / Alternative, non-school forms of education
  - Saturday Schools (Mirza - Afro-Caribbean's in Britain)
  - Home Schooling

Deschooling and Critique of Professions:

- Dewey (early 20<sup>th</sup> century) / Illich (1992)
- Status Groups (eg. Professions - teachers) = Professional closure / Control of knowledge / curriculum / Organisation of teaching process
- Monopoly of knowledge
- Validity - of knowledge, of realisation of knowledge (exams, etc.)
- Subordination, Dependence, Conformity, Competition, Fatalism...
- Streaming / Banding - replication of economic stratification

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