

Theories in Education

Tough and Brooks – Schools are covertly selecting students

Bowles & Gintis (2011 [1976]) – The educational system is here primarily to reproduce a submissive and disciplined workforce through 2 means; 1) The hidden curriculum and its introduction into the long shadow of work 2) through the legitimization of social class inequalities.

Schultz and the human capital - The knowledge and skills possessed by a workforce that causes its value to increase.

Waterhouse (2004) – Waterhouse believed that schools were labelling students as normal, average or deviant. Teacher behaviour towards students is dependent on which group they have been classed in based on previous experience with that student

Halo effect – Teachers who see students performing better may pay less attention to their academic needs and other areas where they may be struggling.

Self-fulfilling prophecy – Students will act upon how they are portrayed and treated by a teacher for example if a student is treated as a delinquent then they will act as one.

Becker (1971) – Teachers initially base their opinion of a pupil on their stereotype of the “ideal Student”.

Harvey and Slatin – Showed pictures of students to teachers and asked their opinion of the student based only on ethnic and social background.

Hartley and Sutton (2011) – They believe that the self-fulfilling prophecy has a negative effect on boy's educational attainment and a positive effect on girls.

Gillbourn and Youdell – The educational triage – system of which students are placed by teachers; the sat's students which achieve C-A, the under achievers which are C-D borderline students and the hopeless who achieve U-D.

Lacey (1970) – Polarisation and pro/anti school subcultures.

Parsons and meritocracy – Students are rewarded at school based upon the quality of work produced.

Ethnocentricity – judging another culture compared to your own in belief that your culture is superior.

Bourdieu – Cultural capital results in an inbuilt advantage to middle class students in a theory he calls advantage cultural capital.

False consciousness – The belief that you are in the correct social class and it is right that you remain in that social class.

Class consciousness – The realisation that you do not belong in the social class you are in, Karl Marx believed that this would end up being the reason for a rise against capitalism.