

Whiteness Pedagogy And Youth In America: Unraveling The Hidden Curriculum



Whiteness, Pedagogy, and Youth in America: Critical Whiteness Studies in the Classroom (Routledge Research in Educational Equality and Diversity)

by Samuel Jaye Tanner

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2131 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 159 pages



Delving into Whiteness Pedagogy: A Complex and Contentious Concept

Whiteness Pedagogy, a term coined by scholars such as Joe Feagin, refers to the implicit and explicit ways in which white perspectives, norms, and values are transmitted and reinforced in education. It shapes the curriculum, classroom practices, and interactions between students and teachers, often perpetuating racial inequalities and maintaining the dominance of white culture.

Understanding Whiteness Pedagogy requires recognizing that it operates on both conscious and unconscious levels. It is not simply a matter of overtly racist language or actions, but also includes subtle messages and

assumptions that privilege whiteness and marginalize other racial and ethnic groups.

The Impact of Whiteness Pedagogy on American Youth

The consequences of Whiteness Pedagogy on American youth are far-reaching. Research has shown that it can lead to:

- Lower academic achievement for students of color
- Internalized racism and negative self-perceptions
- Increased racial tension and conflict
- Perpetuation of racial stereotypes and biases

By ignoring or downplaying the experiences and perspectives of students of color, Whiteness Pedagogy reinforces the idea that whiteness is the norm and that other cultures are inferior. This can have a detrimental impact on the self-esteem and well-being of non-white students.

Challenging Whiteness Pedagogy: Towards a More Just and Equitable Education

Addressing Whiteness Pedagogy requires a multifaceted approach that involves:

- **Critical Race Theory:** Using a critical lens to examine the ways in which race and racism operate in society and education.
- **Culturally Responsive Teaching:** Incorporating diverse perspectives, experiences, and learning styles into the curriculum and classroom practices.

- **Anti-Racist Education:** Explicitly teaching about race and racism, challenging biases, and promoting equity.
- **Teacher Education:** Preparing future teachers to understand and address Whiteness Pedagogy in their own classrooms.

By engaging with these strategies, educators can create more inclusive and equitable learning environments that value the experiences and perspectives of all students.

: Empowering Youth to Confront Whiteness Pedagogy

Whiteness Pedagogy is a pervasive and insidious force in American education. It shapes the experiences of youth from all racial and ethnic backgrounds, reinforcing racial inequalities and perpetuating harmful stereotypes.

However, there is hope for change. By critically examining Whiteness Pedagogy and implementing anti-racist practices, we can create educational environments that are more just, equitable, and empowering for all students.

The book "Whiteness Pedagogy and Youth in America" provides a comprehensive and thought-provoking exploration of this critical issue. It offers insights from leading scholars, educators, and youth activists, providing a roadmap for transforming education and creating a more just and equitable society for all.

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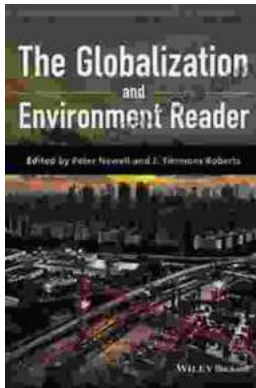


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