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Teacher education, teachers educators and critical pedagogy

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To what extent are our ITE programmes and teacher educators genuinely transformative and so create tomorrow’s critical educators?
Avis in Maxted (2015, p.46)

“Education struggles need to be lodged within a social movement that seeks to undermine oppressive and exploitative relations in order to extend social justice and democracy throughout society (Avis, 2007, p.165)”
6 Roles of the teacher educator

• Teacher of teachers
• Researcher
• Coach
• Curriculum developer
• Gatekeeper
• Broker

• (Lunnenberg, Dengerink and Korthagen, 2014)
Teacher of teachers: modelling teaching behaviours

“the practice of intentionally displaying certain teaching behaviour with the aim of promoting student teachers’ professional learning (cf. Gallimore & Tharp, 1992).”

(Lunenberg, Korthagen and Swennen, 2007, p.589).
Teacher of teachers: modelling values

How I teach IS the message (Russell, 1997)
Seen on a teacher educator’s classroom wall

“There is no such thing as neutral education, education acts either as a process of domestication or liberation”

“Teachers are Dangerous People”

(Daley, 2015, p.14)
ITE curriculum for FE has been described as “factorised to a set of standards and constructed as a programme of strictly controlled and managed teacher training, with an emphasis on assessment, measurement and accountability” (Lawy and Tedder, 2009, p.53)
Curriculum developer: where is critical education in ITE?

- Where is critical education in university based ITE?
- Where is critical education in awarding body ITE?
- Where is critical education ‘visible’ in the Trailblazer standards?
- Using texts like 12 DPs to support students’ critical reflection. [https://dancingprincesses.wordpress.com/](https://dancingprincesses.wordpress.com/)
- Creating spaces in the curriculum for critical reflexive dialogue (Kemmis et al., 2014, p.139) for teachers to develop their ideas and oracy
- Northern College’s “Teaching for a social purpose”
Researcher

• Document the ‘quiet mess’ (AL Kennedy, 2015) and make a noise about what is going on in the invisible sector (Wolf, 2015)
• Researching and writing collaboratively with our student teachers – Critical Participatory Action Research?
• “Writing can also be a form of resistance...and challenge dominant, damaging ideas about education.” (Orr, 2015, p.176)
Outstanding teacher = outstanding practitioner and critical educator
Pet Shop Boys’ “Go West”

Together – we teach and learn
SIN EDUCACION
NO HAY REVOLUCION
SIN EDUCACION
NO HAY SOCIALISMO
FIDEL
References

• Wolf, A., (2015) Heading for the precipice: can further and higher education funding policies be sustained? London: The Policy Institute, King’s College.