

**MultiTransPlans. Emerging Fields in Educational Ethnography
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Taking Geographies of Education back to School

Abstract:

It is only within the last 10 years that a critical mass of human geographers discovered the experiences of children and young people as a source for new theoretical and empirical discussion (e.g. Aitken, Holloway, Valentine, Katz). More recently, geographers encountered the great relevance that in-/formal educational contexts play in the lives of youths and labeled this field “geographies of education and learning” (Holloway and Jöns 2012).

On the other hand, a new strand in educational theory found ideas referring to science and technology studies useful to open the doors to a more complex reflection on school and other educational fields (e.g. Fenwick, Edwards, Youdell, Sørensen), which may be an inspiring path for geographers to follow and learn from the ethnographic methodologies used here.

The paper attempts to take geographies of education back to school in two ways: First, I seek to stimulate and entangle the conversation between the two lines of thought concentrating on a topic that has been neglected by both sides: space. Using ideas on space from three renowned geographers, i.e. Harvey (1973), Massey (1994; 2005) and Thrift (2003), I try to offer some ideas that may be understood as a kick-off for further debate on geography, school and education. If we return to school and study this place as some playground where materials, humans, spatial relations, bodily/affectual experiences intermingle as network effects, we can simultaneously learn a lot about space.

Secondly, I want to consider the possibilities of taking geographies of education back to school, back to teaching and learning geography. In a joint project with teachers and students, I would like to develop some teaching resources that may be useful to feed in some new impulses to the geography curriculum at school as well as provide a frame for doing geographies of young people.

(299 words)

Key Words: Education, Geography, School, Space, Teaching

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