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How does developing competencies to both read and write educational research enable teachers to contribute to teaching and learning for an inclusive interconnected world?

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ATEE 2022 Winter Conference.

Teaching and Learning for an Inclusive, Interconnected World.

22nd April 2022, Sestri Levante, Italy

Writing educational research – why bother?

Professional educational responsibilities includes developing the skills, knowledge and abilities to:

- Hold self to account for own educational, values-laden practice – values serving as explanatory principles and evaluative standards of practice
- Contribute to a global educational knowledgebase – none of us is as smart of all of us

Educational research

On the first day of the new school year, all the teachers in one private school received the following note from their principal.

Dear Teacher,

I am a survivor of a concentration camp. My eyes saw what no man should witness:

- Gas chambers built by *learned* engineers.
- Children poisoned by *educated* physicians.
- Infants killed by *trained* nurses.
- Women and babies shot and burned by *high school* and *college* graduates.

So, I am suspicious of education. My request is: help your students become human. Your efforts must never produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths, educated Eichmanns.

Reading, writing and arithmetic are important only if they serve to make our children more human. (Ginott, 1972, p.317)

Education is a life-long values-laden process of each person and community learning to live a humane life that is personally satisfying, socially productive and worthwhile for self and others, and contributes to the flourishing of Humanity.

- to lead a life that is personally flourishing,

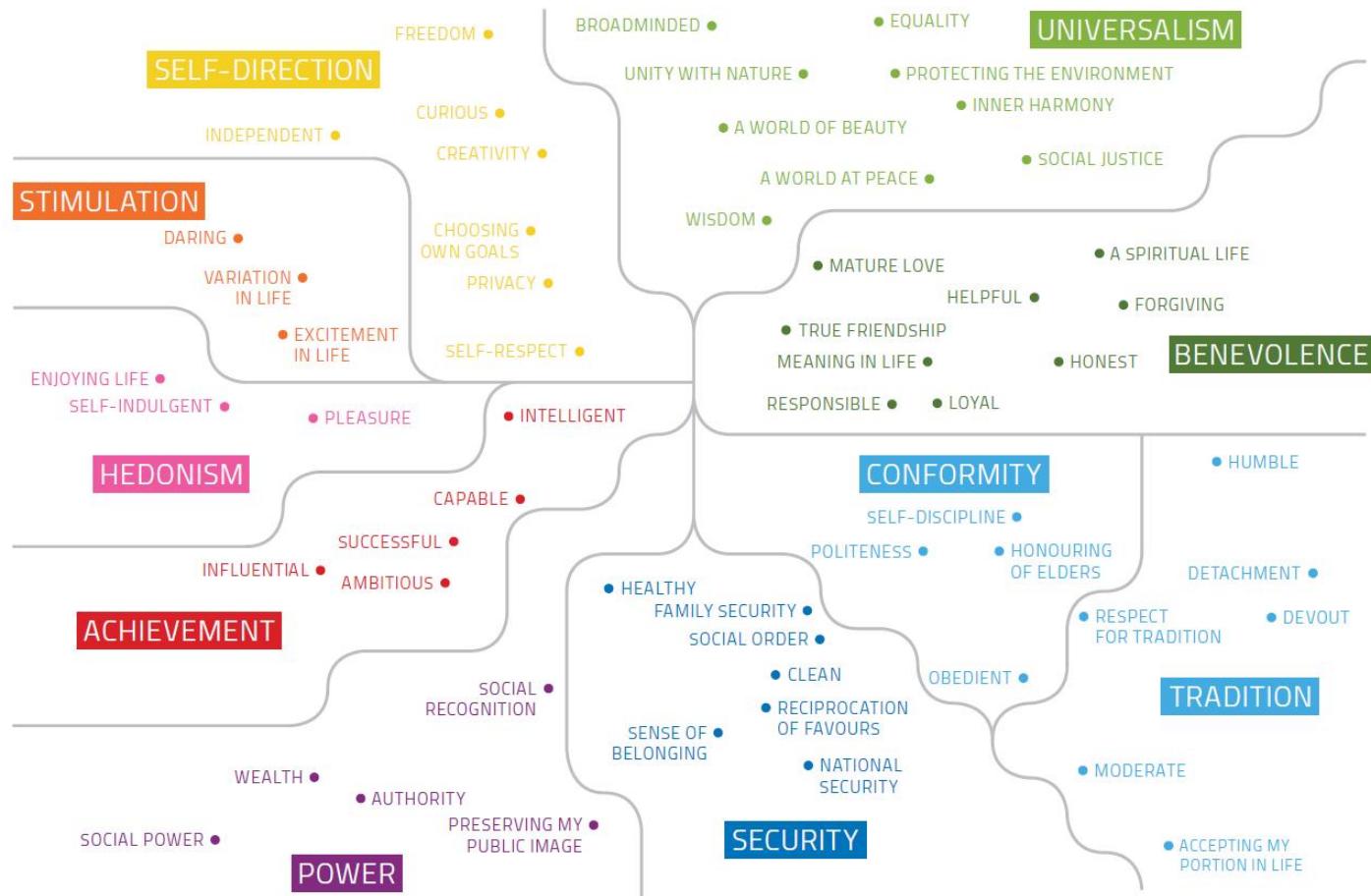
and

- to help others to do so, too.
(Reiss and White, 2013)



Flourishing of Humanity:
values, beliefs and contradictions

- Values are what we hold to be important
- Beliefs are what we hold to be true - What we *take to be* 'true' is often confused with what *is* 'true' – we believe we are doing something...
- We are often unaware that we are living contradictions in our practice



Values Map (Redrawn by Minuteworks from Schwartz (2006) with permission, in Crompton, 2022 - <https://commoncausefoundation.org/>)

Teachers and Teacher Educators realise their professional educational responsibilities by researching their practice to:

- Identify where they experience themselves as a living contradiction as they research to understand, improve and generate valid explanations of their educational influences in learning
- Evaluate their practice and test the validity of their knowledge claims *and* help others to do so too
- Contribute to the growth of a global educational knowledgebase for the benefit of all

Living Educational Theory research

...a form of professional practitioner self-study educational research

In the process of researching their practice they clarify their humanitarian values

A living-educational-theory : an explanation of educational influence in their own learning, in the learning of others and in the learning of social formations, which forms the context of their practice (Whitehead, 1989)



[http://www/actionresearch.net](http://www.actionresearch.net)

Learning?

	SHALLOW	DEEP	PROFOUND
Means	Memorisation	Reflection	Intuition
Outcomes	Information	Knowledge	Wisdom
Evidence	Replication	Understanding	Meaning
Motivation	Extrinsic	Intrinsic	Moral
Attitudes	Compliance	Interpretation	Challenge
Relationships	Dependence	Independence	Interdependence

And Strategic learning – e.g. how to pass exams



Multimedia narratives which communicate the educators values for example:

- Living-posters -
<https://www.actionresearch.net/writings/posters/homepage2021.pdf>
- Those published in peer reviewed journals such as the Educational Journal of Living Theories (ejolts.net) _ *Pupils as action researchers: improving something important in our lives* – Branko Bogonar and Marica Zovko (2008) (EJOLTs 1(1), 1-49)
<https://ejolts.net/node/7>
- Those legitimated for accreditation at masters level – Joy Mounter – (2006) *Can children carry out action research about learning, creating their own learning theory?* <https://actionresearch.net/writings/tuesdayma/joymounterull.pdf>
- And doctoral level Merna Meyer (2019) *Becoming participatory artists, researchers and teachers: my living theory of Art Education*
<http://www.actionresearch.net/living/meyerphd2019.pdf>



I hope you will test my claim that as you (as an educator) engages in Living Educational Theory Research you promote teaching and learning for an inclusive, interconnected world.



<https://actionresearch.net/>

Educational Journal of Living Theories <https://ejolts.net/>

