

# Education and Social Justice: the U.S. *Critical Pedagogy* movement in the contemporary educational debate

*Berliner Methodentreffen*  
*Qualitative Forschung*  
*17-18 July 2015*  
*FUB Berlin*

## Research Questions

- What are the features of the *Critical Pedagogy* movement?
- What is the relationship between education and social justice according to the movement and how it engages it?

## Contents

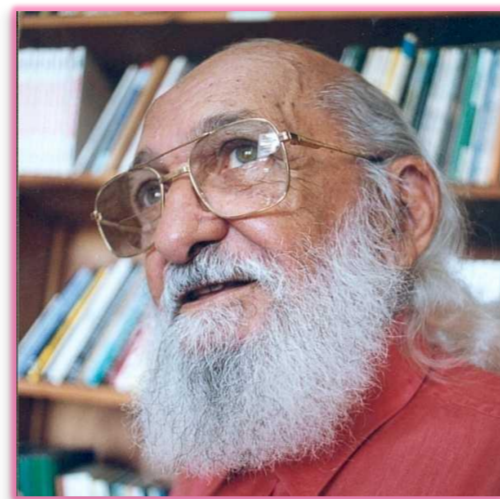
- A portrait of the *Critical Pedagogy* movement
- The analysis of the contribution of this movement to the educational debate in the U.S.
- The analysis of some practices in concrete educational contexts

## Methods

- Bibliographical and Literature review
- Interviews to experts
- Analysis of a case study

## Key Concepts of Critical Pedagogy

- **Critical Consciousness**
- **Honouring lived experience**
- **Praxis – both dialogue and action**
- **Identifying and countering hidden oppression**
- **Student Voice and Empowerment**
- **Breaking down Eurocentric thinking**
- **Socialist vision – revolutionary agenda**



P. Freire



H. A. Giroux



A. Darder

## Theoretical Framework

Paulo Freire  
Antonio Gramsci  
The Frankfurt School  
John Dewey  
The New Sociology of Education

## Main Scholars

Henry A. Giroux  
Peter McLaren  
Joe Kincheloe  
Antonia Darder  
Shirley Steinberg  
bell hooks

## Main topics addressed

School and Curriculum Theories  
Identity Politics  
Multiculturalism  
Media and Popular Culture

## The Interview

- With 16 American scholars experts in this field
- Five specific questions about: main scholars, possibilities and limits of *Critical Pedagogy*, its impact in the educational system, the problems of the American school system, examples of practices in concrete educational contexts

## The Case Study

- The *Social Justice High School* in Chicago (USA)

## References:

- ❖ Darder, A. Baltodano, M. P. & Torres, R. D. (eds.). (2009). *The Critical Pedagogy Reader*. New York (USA), Abingdon (UK): Routledge;
- ❖ Denzin, N. K. & Lincoln, Y. S. (eds.). (2011). *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Los Angeles, CA (USA): SAGE Publications;
- ❖ Macrine, S. L., McLaren, P., Hill, D. (2010) (eds.). *Revolutionizing Pedagogy. Education for Social Justice Within and Beyond Global Neo-Liberalism*. New York (USA): Palgrave Macmillan;
- ❖ Macrine, S. L. (2009). *Critical Pedagogy in uncertain Times. Hope and Possibilities*. New York (USA): Palgrave Macmillan;
- ❖ McLaren, P. & Kincheloe, J. L. (2007). *Critical Pedagogy. Where are we now?* New York (USA): Peter Lang.

## Contact:

**Luisella Tizzi**

PhD program in General Pedagogy,  
Social Pedagogy and Education  
Tutor: prof. Liliana Dozza  
University of Bolzano - Italy

[luisella.tizzi@gmail.com](mailto:luisella.tizzi@gmail.com)

**unibz** Freie Universität Bozen  
Libera Università di Bolzano  
Università Liedia de Bulsan