

Review of: "Tackling Tradition in Education"

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Even though it is commendable that the article addresses the discussion about different ways to understand education, as the discussion between “traditional” and “progressive” perspectives, the article has some aspects to improve, related to the form and with the content.

The first one, is related to not making clear the audience to which it is directed. The tone of the article varies from questions of common sense to other more complex ones, as if it were sometimes addressed to a common public and other times, to an academic one.

The second one, also related with the form, is the structure. It is not clear, unnecessarily long and, the most important, inadequately sourced or referenced. For example, from the discussion between “traditional v/s progressive”, gives a long story about education in different parts from antiquity, but not giving a kind of main ideas to understand what is the point. So, finally is just a lot of information with a not clear purpose, so the focus of the discussion is lost.

The third one is related to the content itself: Here some examples of some parts that called my attention:

- Some false dilemmas are presented, as it says “(education) It focuses less on job preparation and more on student interests, natural abilities, thinking and communication”. This is not necessarily mutually exclusive points.
- A title indicates “Education Post 1500”, but just develops the 20th C period (it starts with the sentence: “In the 1950s, Communists...”).

In sum, the discussion between traditional and progressive is important, but poorly achieved. I think that the article has a lot of potential of being a good piece if the argumentative thread of the discussion were clearer, more defined, argued and referenced.