
**Cultural Transmission**

Curriculum “transmit[s] the best products of the intellectual culture… often associated with a belief in the generalizability of learning—that learning in one area will have beneficial effects in many areas” (Pratt, 1994, p. 9).

Academic and concentrates on key academic subjects. Traditional, didactic teaching, usually decided upon by the political and social power of the day.

**Talking Point:** Freire (2008) had quite a bit to say about the shortcomings of education controlled by a hegemonic class. Pros and cons?

**Social Transformation**

A mechanism by which social change may occur through the education system. Even schooling as a politically subversive activity (Counts, 1932; Freire, 2008).

**Talking Point:** Is there a possibility that there could be a danger in the social transformation approach if taken too literally by educators? How could this be detrimental to students and society?

**Individual Fulfillment**

Education is not a process of filling a vacuum or remediating a deficit, but of providing the conditions in which people can develop their full potential… The primary vehicle for growth is human relations, and the preferred learning mode is direct personal experience (p.14)

Self-actualization and the need for confidence and friendship as part of individual fulfillment (pp. 1617).

Echoes Maslow’s (1943), *Hierarchy of Needs*.

**Talking Point:** Is the individual fulfillment perspective valid, or does it lack in academic substance? Or even in preparing students to become productive citizens? If not, why not? Take a side and comment.

**Feminist Pedagogy**

“The contributions of feminist thought to curriculum theory and practice are diverse, profound, and as yet neglected and underestimated by the wider educational community.” (Pratt, 1994, p. 17)

**Talking Point:** Are there any other traditionally neglected perspectives that could be made into a curriculum perspective apart from feminist pedagogy? Would a feminist perspective be more effective as part of an overall drive for equal and equitable human rights?

*Picture right: Professor Dame (Susan) Jocelyn Bell Burnell, discovered the first radio pulsars while studying and advised by her thesis supervisor Antony Hewish, for which he shared the 1974 Nobel Prize in Physics with Martin Ryle, while Bell Burnell was excluded, despite having been the first to observe and precisely analyze the pulsars.*
References


