




WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE
DIFFERENT? EXAMINING
DIVERSITY IN DIVERSE
CONTEXTS

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Diversity & Difference

- Diversity in North America: Race as the main indicator
- US: Civil rights movement in the 1960s
- Educational reforms; multicultural education, affirmative action
- Addition of categories such as class, gender, sexual orientation, ability/disability to support diversity and multiculturalism in the US
- Race continues to be the main category of difference
- Diversity, difference, and race

Global Educational Reforms: International Development Policies

- Global Educational Reforms: Flow of ideas & policies from West to the rest
 - *Child-centered policies*
 - *Activity-based learning*
 - *Phonics-based literacy interventions*
- Challenges
 - *Different social norms, roles, and family structures: what it means to be a “child”*
 - *Different concepts of teaching and learning*
 - *What it means to be “different”*
 - Multicultural educational reforms in Argentina & France

Activity

- What does "diversity" look like in Ukraine?
- If and how do official policies related to education, employment, housing, political participation, etc. define "diversity" and "equality?"
 - *Do these official policies reflect the social realities regarding diversity and related challenges?*
- If and how these official policies and social norms about "diversity" and "equality" changing because of the external influences, such as international development projects, media, etc.?

Diversity & Gender

- International development exclusive focus on gender for educational and other development policies meant to create diverse, inclusive, and democratic institutions
 - *Empowerment through participation in labor market, political processes, & social institutions*
 - *Education as the key to support these forms of representations and participations*
- Challenges
 - *Matriarchal societies and/or higher participation of women in political/social institutions*
 - *Labor market participation introducing new forms of exploitation*
 - *Access to education does not lead to empowerment; Malawi & Bangladesh*
- Lack of proper implementation or lack of specificity needed to make these policies a success?

Gender in Different Contexts

- Women's participation in labor market in post-socialist East European states
- Women's participation in STEM fields in Egypt, India, Lebanon, and other "developing" countries
- Hijab (head covering) facilitating women's participation in educational institutions and labor market in rural areas

Gender in Ukraine

- How would you describe the socially accepted gender roles and responsibilities in Ukraine?
 - *What is is labor distribution is domestic sphere?*
 - *What is women/men representation ratio in labor market, particularly in reference to high paying jobs?*
 - *What is women/men representation ratio in different educational discipline?*
- What policies, if any, would you introduce to support gender equality in Ukraine?

THANK YOU!

- Q & A