

Banking and Problem-Posing Methods of Education

Paulo Freire

Banking Method

The "banking concept," as termed by Freire, is essentially an act that hinders the intellectual growth of students by turning them into, figuratively speaking, comatose "receptors" and "collectors" of information that have no real connection to their lives.

- * Teacher teaches students are taught
- * Containers, receptacles to be filled. More that is filled the better the teacher
- * The teacher knows everything the students know nothing...a direct opposite
- * The teacher talks and the students listen meekly
- * It's all about memorizing
- * The teacher disciplines and the students are disciplined
- * The teacher chooses the program content & the students (who were not consulted) adapt to it
- * Often symbolized by the MUG (student's empty mind waiting to be filled) and JUG (teacher's knowledge to fill student's mind)... traditionally teachers "deposit" information into the students brains

Problem-Posing Method

In problem-posing education, people develop their power to perceive critically the way they exist in the world with which and in which they find themselves; they come to see the world not as a static reality, but as a reality in process, in transformation.

- * Acts of intellect, not transferring information
- * The teacher is no longer merely the one who teaches, but one who himself is taught
- * Students are co-investigators
- * Students are increasingly posed with problems relating to themselves in the world
- * Regards dialogue as indispensable
- * Problem posing education affirms men and women as beings in the process of becoming
- * Bases itself of creativity stimulates true reflection and action upon reality