

Keynote – Professor Dave Hill

Carnival of Reaction, Repression and Religion: Education and the Neoliberal *cum* Neoconservative-Nationalist-Religious Assault: a Marxist Critique of Resistance.

Education is a key site of cultural, ideological and political struggle (though not the most important). Schoolteachers and University (and other) teachers are key combatants in this struggle, in this class war, witting or unwitting, willing or unwilling. Trump, Betsy DeVos in the USA, Erdogan in Turkey, May and a succession of New Labour and Conservative Education Ministers in England, and conservative-nationalist-religious governments in other states such as Poland and India, have and are neoliberalising, commodifying, de-critiquing, defunding, conforming and conservatizing the public education state apparatuses in their neoliberal, neoconservative-nationalist-religious assault on liberal, social democratic, secular, and (very occasional) socialist gains of the postwar period.

In this presentation, using a Marxist analysis, in Part One, I present empirical data about the current stage of capitalism, the Immiseration stage of neoliberal capitalism in England and highlight its relationship with conservatism and neo-conservatism, identifying societal inequalities, the assault by the capitalist State on its opponents such as local councils and trade unions and teachers and curricula in universities and schools. In Part Two, I describe and analyse what, respectively, neoliberalism and neo-conservatism have done and are doing to education in England. In Part Three, I relate these developments to Marxist state theory and class theory. And, in Part Four, I end on a note of optimism and resistance, suggesting arenas, programme and organisation for combating the neoliberal / neoconservative-nationalist degradation of education and society.

References (for those wishing to follow-up on this presentation)

1. Hill, D. (ed.) (2013) *Immiseration Capitalism and Education: Austerity, Resistance and Revolt*. Brighton: Institute for Education Policy Studies.
2. Hill, D. (2017) (forthcoming: second, revised edition: Foreword by Peter McLaren) *Marxist Essays on Education: Class and 'Race', Neoliberalism and Capitalism*. Brighton: The Institute for Education Policy Studies.
3. Hill, D. (2017) (forthcoming: Foreword by Peter McLaren) *Marxist Essays on Education: Ideology, Policy and Pedagogy*. Brighton, England: Institute for Education Policy Studies.
4. Hill, D., Lewis, C., Maisuria, A. Yarker, P. and Hill, J. (2016) *Conservative Education Policy Reloaded: Policy, Ideology and Impacts in England*. *Journal for Critical Education Policy Studies* 14(3). Online at <http://www.jceps.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/14-3-1-1.pdf>
5. Hill, D. (2009) *Culturalist and Materialist Explanations of Class and 'Race': Critical Race Theory, Equivalence/ Parallelist Theory and Marxist Theory*. *Cultural Logic: an electronic journal of Marxist Theory and Practice*. Online at <http://clogic.eserver.org/2009/2009.html>
6. Hill, D. (2006) *Class, Capital and Education in this Neoliberal/ Neoconservative Period*. *Information for Social Change*, 23. Online at <http://libr.org/isc/issues/ISC23/B1%20Dave%20Hill.pdf>
7. Kelsh, D. and Hill, D. (2006) *The Culturalization of Class and the Occluding of Class Consciousness: The Knowledge Industry in/of Education*. *Journal for Critical Education Policy Studies*, 4 (1). <http://www.jceps.com/index.php?pageID=article&articleID=59>