Ethics of Diversity

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Keywords: citizenship, diversity, ethics, equity, human rights

This theme group, organized by the Education, Diversity, Globalization and Ethics (EDGE) research group from the University of Oulu, takes a view of diversity as a broad concept encompassing variety of dimensions such as ethnicity, gender, language, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical dis/abilities, religious beliefs or political beliefs. As such, diversity is seen as an inherent feature of all learning and educational environments, and on a more abstract level, as a learning environment itself, or even as a necessary condition for learning required in today's world. In that sense, the overarching question is: 'Whose values are we talking about?' and more specifically: How and what kind of values appear explicitly and implicitly in education and learning environments? What are the implications for children, youth, students, teachers, educational leaders, policy makers? How are values validated/ allocated/ imposed/ invoked/ appealed to/ challenged/ internalized?

To address these questions we invite empirical, methodological and theoretical papers (20 min.) on topics such as:

- explicit/implicit/hidden/non-existent values
- issues of human rights, such as (im)balance of universal values and cultural traditions
- citizenship and participation, as inclusion/exclusion
- power and normativity in value setting
- challenges of equity in diversity
- linguistic diversity

The main goal of this group is to bring together the discussion on the above listed themes in search for an understanding of what constitutes ethics of diversity and its theoretical and practical implications for education and learning.

Please send your proposal to jaana.pesonen@oulu.fi magda.karjalainen@oulu.fi no later than October 1st 2014.