

Unit 3: Reflection Assignment

Please choose one of the following options. Be sure to reply to another person's answer after you post your Reflection. Please cite your sources in line and at the end of your initial post for full credit.

Purpose:

For your reflection this week we will focus on equity and inclusion in public education.

Option 1: Thinking about Education

After reviewing this week's course materials use the evaluation criteria below as your guide to answer this two-part prompt (150-200 words total for Part 1 and 2 combined):

- Part 1. Describe your educational journey. What has it been like? What are your goals? How does your academic experience compare to that of your parents or caregivers? What does your education mean to your family?
- Part 2. Consider your educational journey from a sociological perspective. How has academic success or the lack of it, impacted your parents' or caregivers' work-life and health? Or not? How can academic success improve your prospects in terms of work and wealth? Or not? Use examples from this week's materials, as well as theoretical concepts from this course.

Option 2: Thinking About Praxis

In chapter five, we were introduced to Paulo Freire, and to his idea that teaching and learning require action and reflection. This combination of engaging in the world and then reflecting on what you learned, or *praxis*, is the true goal of education, creating a more equitable society by taking conscious action. He writes, "It is not enough for people to come together in dialogue in order to gain knowledge of their social reality.

They must act together upon their environment in order critically to reflect upon their reality and so transform it through further action and critical reflection.”

For this reflection, outline a revolutionary praxis to make more room in public education for people who are D/deaf, Black, Native American, Latinx or other marginalized group by answering these questions:

- Describe racial or gendered outcome disparity in public education
- What barriers to access or inclusion create this inequity?
- What ideas can inspire action to reduce barriers to access and inclusion in public education?
- What conscientious personal or collective actions can you take to reduce barriers to access and inclusion in public education?

Option 3: Education as a Social Problem

Social Problems Process

For this reflection, you can practice using the information about education in Chapter 5. Please pick a population of students - Queer, Neurodiverse, d/Deaf, Indigenous, Black, or a different group that the book doesn't describe. Then explain how the inequality experienced by that group fits either the Social Problems Process or the Characteristics of the Social Problem. In your answer, please remember to list the steps or the characteristics themselves.

In your response to other students, you could provide feedback about which pieces of the explanation were clear and which might need more work. You could also provide additional evidence for a step or characteristic. We can build our knowledge together.

Option 4: Recognition, Reparation and Resilience

Indigenous people are fighting for recognition, reparation, and resilience. One example of this action is [Canada settles residential schools lawsuit for \\$2.8bn](#). Please find another example of Indigenous recognition, reparation, and resilience as it relates to education in your area or the wider world. How does this action reflect the repairing of the historical and current harms of colonization? Does it go far enough?

Option 5: Social Justice and Education:

One of the places that we see power in education is at the level of the school board. Please look at one of your own local school boards. Who is on it? What kind of actions have they taken recently? Do you think your school board is making decisions that meet the needs of your community?

Criteria for Success:

This assignment is worth 15 points, including your initial illustration and post (150-200 words), and your response to another student. Please **define and apply** at least one sociological term or concept.

Your response could answer what made you think, what made you curious to know more, or what did you resonate with. The response should be 100-150 words and go beyond "Great answer" or "Good Job".

Also, as good scientists, we cite our sources. **Please remember to use parenthesis in your text, like (Puttman 2022:3), AND add the complete citation at the end of your post.**

To review the rubric used to grade your discussion posts, click the three dot menu in the upper right corner of the screen.