

Dear organization team,

I hereby submit my abstract to your upcoming conference in Volos (see below). I wish to present a paper in one of the following areas, but I am happy to present in others if you think it would be a better fit:

- Alternative pedagogies, heterotopias or real utopias in education: advancing freedom and equality
- Art, creativity and educational commons

Best regards,

Camilla

Abstract

Chaos as a Common Good? On Circus Pedagogy for Children on the Move

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Dislocated children as a target-group is pointed out as a particularly vulnerable in society. From a participant perspective, Van Es, Rommes and De Kwaadsteniet (2019) describes children's life in dislocation as a state of nervousness and sadness, with few things to do and few friends to rely on. Over the past few years, Social Circus has developed as a supportive practice for children on the move. The emerging body of research report on social, and health benefits of circus interventions (e.g., Bessone, 2017; Bolton, 2004; Carp, 1998; Fournier et al., 2014; Löf, 2021; Spiegel, 2019). However, there is still a need to explore social circus from a pedagogical perspective. Drawing upon a 1,5 year-long ethnographic fieldwork with a Swedish Social Circus program in asylum accommodations, this paper aims to explore 'commons' in circus pedagogy for children on the move. The analysis revolves around an understanding of teachers and participants as 'commoners', engaged in circus as a 'commoning practice'. In the tentative results 'chaos' stands out as a 'common good' in circus pedagogy, viewed upon as a catalyst for freedom and creativity.

Keywords: Circus, Commons, Circus Pedagogy, Social Circus, Children On the Move

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