

#### On linguistic epistemicides and colonization: Looking at subtractive education for bilingual/bicultural children

Maria Alfredo Moreira University of Minho, Portugal <u>malfredo@ie.uminho.pt</u>

Symposium: Decolonizing and De-Canonizing Curriculum Futurity: An Engaged Discussion on João Paraskeva's Conflicts in Curriculum Theory





# On curriculum epistemicides

 (...) epistemological fascism because it is a violent relation of destruction or suppression of other knowledges [...]. Epistemological fascism exists under the form of epistemicide, whose most violent form was the forced conversion and suppression of non-western knowledges carried out by European colonialism and that are still in place today under not always subtle forms. (Santos,

2008, para. 36, translated from the Portuguese).





### Curriculum epistemicides as

 ... a capital crime in a society that claims social and cognitive justice (...) a crime against humanity. (Paraskeva, 2016, p. 162)





# Linguicism(s)

 (...) ideologies and structures which are used to legitimate, effectuate and reproduce an unequal distribution of power and resources (both material and non-material) between groups which are defined on the basis of language (on the basis of their mother tongue). (Skutnabb-Kangas, 1988, p. 13).





## **On epistemic colonization**

 ... the official language has been imposed on the whole population as the only legitimate language that is maintained by the dominant curriculum forces that codify it, and the teachers whose task is to teach based on that language. (Bourdieu, 2001, cit. in Paraskeva, 2011, p. 175)





#### References

- Paraskeva, J. (2011). *Conflicts in curriculum theory: Challenging hegemonic epistemologies*. New York, NY: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Paraskeva, J. (2016). *Curriculum epistemicide: Toward an itinerant curriculum theory*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Skutnabb-Kangas, T. (1988). Multilingualism and the education of minority children. In T. Skutnabb-Kangas & J. Cummins (eds.), *Minority education: From shame to struggle* (pp. 9-44). Clevedon, Ph: Multilingual Matters.
- Santos, B. S. (2008). A filosofia à venda, a douta ignorância e a aposta de Pascal [Philosophy for sale, learned ignorance and Pascal's wager]. *Revista Crítica de Ciências Sociais [Critical Journal of Social Sciences]*, 80. Available from October 1, 2012. Retrieved from: http://rccs.revues.org/691. doi: 10.4000/rccs.691





#### THANKS! OBRIGADA!



