Why Good Intentions May Fail to Deliver

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Rising tide or Closing gaps?
MOOCs: Access for all... usage by some

Hansen & Reich (2015) Democratizing Education? Examining access and usage patterns in massive open online courses
MOOCs: Access for all... completion by some

Hansen & Reich (2015) Democratizing Education? Examining access and usage patterns in massive open online courses
**Wikis: Access for all... collaboration for some**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wiki Type</th>
<th>Title I Schools (n = 117)</th>
<th>Non-Title I Schools (n = 133)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failed wikis, trial wikis, or teacher resource-sharing sites without student audience or participation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher-centered content delivery devices</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual student assignment or portfolio, with minimal collaboration</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative, multimedia assignment or workspace</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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We need intentional design to close these gaps
At every stage of a project, how do we design for equity and justice?
Disciplining Play:
How Implicit Bias Shapes Interest-Driven Learning

Matt Rafalow
Google

(Findings based on research conducted at University of California-Irvine)
What happens when kids bring those digital interests to school?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Demographics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heathcliff Academy</td>
<td>mostly wealthy and White</td>
</tr>
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<td>Sheldon Jr. High</td>
<td>mostly middle-class, Asian-American</td>
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<td>Cesar Chavez Middle School</td>
<td>mostly working class, Latino</td>
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Heathcliff Academy (mostly wealthy and White)

Sheldon Jr. High (mostly middle-class, Asian-American)

Cesar Chavez Middle School (mostly working class, Latino)

Essential  Threatening  Irrelevant
Why?

Implicit bias.

But teachers’ workplaces can exacerbate these biases.
My questions:

How can we begin to address implicit biases without blaming individual teachers in the process?

What is required to improve teachers’ workplace conditions such that there is a safe space to do this?
Approaches to equity in education: trade-offs and open questions.

Monica Bulger, PhD
March 28, 2017
@literacyonline
What does equity look like?

Equity for whom?

How is it measured?
Education is complex and messy.

What are potential trade-offs?
Example benefits and harms
- predictive analytics
- text message alerts
- interactive components to textbooks
Resources

See also:
Larry Cuban
(teaching & tech)
Richard E. Mayer
(multimedia learning)

A starting list of equity questions I ask:
https://medium.com/@literacyonline/