

1. Definition Social class

- Britain is a class based society
- Equal chance is a myth
- WC have limited chances
- Privileged succeed
- WC make up domestic jobs
- MC take up 'good' jobs
- There is link between parental education and work
- Free school meals affect outcomes in school in terms of examinations

7. Subcultures and peer groups

- Children form social groups – reject the norms of school
- They gain the status of 'bad' rather than feel inferior
- Jackson (2002) laddish behaviour gives self worth

6. Labelling theories and self-fulfilling prophecy

- Blames teachers for failure
- Ball – schools stream children based on behaviour not ability
- Goodcare – WC under marked by teachers
- Children accept labels. Criticised by Safia-Mirza – Children can and do reject labels

2. Parents and attitudes to school

Most parents want their children to succeed

Link between good education and good chances in life

People with higher levels of education have better health, live longer, have better houses and have a well paid job. Government improve Parents attitude

3. Causes of under-attainment amongst working-class pupils

Functionalist – schools meritocratic –wc perform poorly

Marxists – education system legitimise class power

Interactionist – schools are middle class institutions – label WC

4. Other reasons to account for working class failure

- Material deprivation – lack of money and possessions. Poor housing quality. Smith and Noble – poor
  - parent cant afford resources
  - Cultural deprivation – WC not as good as MC
- Bernstein – problems with language  
Douglas – WC don't value education
- Cultural capital – MC have knowledge on school policy. Bourdieu
- Cultural reproduction theory Bowles and Gintis  
Cultural reproduction theory –Produce workers for society

**Educational attainment and social class**

**ODD CLAS**

5. School organisation

- Parliamentary Select Committee - Problems lie in school
- WC children in outstanding schools – twice as likely to get 5 A\*-C's than children schools rated satisfactory
- Schools should aim to recruit high quality teachers
- Poorer areas = less funds
- Teachers have low expectations of WC
- Teachers need to improve skills, school day must be longer
- Teachers claim problem is material poverty

## Working class underachievement and aspirations

- 2014- Associates of school & college leaders evidence to parliament WC under achievement linked social factors.
- Young people spend more time outside of school than inside- social factors influence school attainment.
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation- knowledge of the routes through ed and employment to achieve ambitions- missing in low income families.

### CAUSES

- **F-** Poor fail due to cultural values & lack of ambition- WC children culturally deprived.
- **M-** Cultural issue is one of power and influence- WC isn't deprived but different & not highly valued.
- **Int-** Teachers favour pupils who resemble themselves in terms of culture and class.

LAND CLC

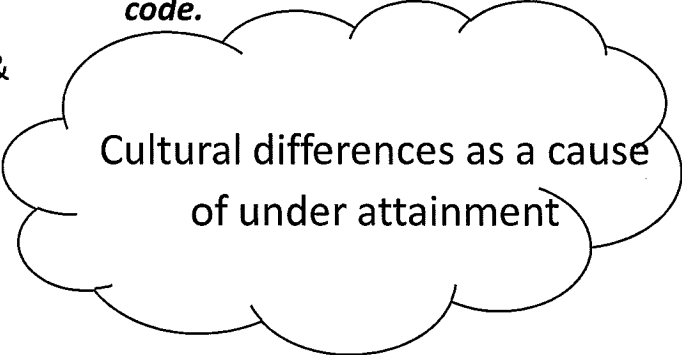
## WC culture & Ed

### NORMS and VALUES

- WC culture- not support development of childrens ed- WC homes- Much less books .Oscar Lewis
- By age 6-7 children absorbed the social lives of their families and are on path to repeat the lives of their parents.

### LINGUISTIC REASONS

- Bernstein- **Restricted code**- Short sentences e.t.c- WC rely on restricted code- MC = **elaborated code**.



Cultural differences as a cause of under attainment

## Cultural difference theory

- Ethnographic studies- some groups don't support ed achievement.
- **F-** WC culture- inferior
- **M-** Denies culture of WC causes failure. Rose
- **Int-** focus on Cult ignores real issue school failure

### CULTURAL CAPITAL

M social control- Bourdieu social capital  
Gillies academic parents help children

### CULTURE OF MASCULINITY AND

### LADDISHNESS

- Further development of cultural theory is applied to gender rather than social class.
- Males & Females experience different cultural pressures.
- Mitsos & Browne- Boys less inclined to be conscientious in school.
- Mac an Ghail- Masculinity is no longer clear, as girls challenged their assumptions that to be male is superior- crisis of masculinity in workplace.

### Definition

- An **ethnic** group or **ethnicity** is a category of people with common ancestral, social, cultural, or national experiences.
- Britain = multicultural

### Single parenthood and the New Right

- African Caribbean communities = relatively high levels of lone parenthood
- Lone parenthood = face financial challenge
- New Right = been very critical of single motherhood and see it as contributing to huge social problems among poor

### Racism

- Many schools in Britain = institutionally racist
- Gilroy, Sewell = pointed to racist attitudes among schools and teachers
- Cecil Wright = found that although teaching staff opposed racist views, they often had stereotypical attitudes which saw some children as problematic

### Ethnocentric curriculum

- National Curriculum is ethnocentric + over looks contribution of non-white groups to British history
- When Black people are considered, it is often in context of negative stereotypes (slavery)

### Link between attainment and ethnicity

- Functionalists –some ethnic minorities pre-disposed to fail
- Marxists –class
- Interactionists – labelling, teacher and institutional racism being cause under attainment
- Feminists – girls ethnic minorities experience double disadvantage (sexism and racism)
- The New Right – agree with functionalists, recent perceived failure of boys West Indian boys lack suitable role models

## Evaluate the relationship between ethnicity and educational attainment

### WHY?

#### Cultural differences

- Case of Gypsy/Romany or Traveller children culture impact educational attainment
- Traveller children attend more primary than secondary = many families do not register their children
- Chinese children= consistently among highest attaining children

### Genetic theories of ethnic difference

- No evidence to support This idea proposed by new right thinkers ( Murray, Eysenck)

### Poverty and class

- Strand (1999) primary/secondary schools in London – both black and white from disadvantaged backgrounds failed to make expected progress
- Reasons for this = ethnic minority children tend to attend low performing schools, have low expectations placed on them, are perceived as having problem behaviour

### English as an additional language (EAL)

- 10% children in English schools EAL
- 90% Bangladeshi children EAL
- 7% Black Caribbean pupils
- 31% EAL children low income families
- 15% non EAL free school meals.

SCARED PEG

### Labelling theory and self fulfilling prophecy.

- Social process
- Being given a label
- Affects interaction and behaviour
- Part of individuals identity
- Hargreaves (1975) consists of three stages
- Teachers subject Halo effect
- Pupils labelled as 'good'
- 'Challenging' pupils attract punishment.

### Criticism of labelling theory

- Small scale observational studies
- Evidence is not reliable, not generalizable
- Doesn't explain why the labels develop in the first place
- Theory deterministic
- Blaming teachers for poor performance, ignores children active in choice.
- Marxists – overlooks the importance of social structure.

### Institutional racism in schools

Def

School as an institution act , in which disadvantages a group of people.

Gillborn&Youndell

Black minorities in lower sets.

The swan report

Systems disadvantage some ethnic minorities

### Schools and gender

- Teachers have different expectations
- Expected to behave in different ways
- Can form label process
- Setting and selection
- Grammar pre 1970 now
- Comprehensive in Wales
- Bands, streams and sets now
- 10% selected to do music
- Labelling theory= benefit

## Factors within school that impact success

### Effects of school organisation

- Research in 1990
- Stoll and Fink
- Poor organisational structure
- Low expectations
- Characteristics of SINK SCHOOLS
- Found in areas od poverty and deprivation
- Sink schools turned to academic schools.
- Remove schools from local authority control.

### School improvement

- Governments can do little about material/cultural issues.
- Can influence schools
- Recent policy – aim to make school effective

### Criticism

- Reforms – unequal provision
- Fragmented education system

### Conclusion

- Schools underperform
- Need to reform themselves
- Encourage disadvantages children to achieve.

### Definition:

Advocacy of women's rights on the ground of equality of the sexes.

### Women can escape 4Cs through education:

- Cooking DR FILM
- Cleaning
- Caring
- Checkout

### Radical feminists and education:

- Male teachers dominate social space and are aggressive toward women who challenge male dominance.
- Sexual violence by male college students not dealt with – girls taught how to avoid rape, implying it's their fault.
- Favour single sex classrooms.

### Criticisms of radical feminists:

- Not all men are rapists
- Not all women are victims

### Liberal feminists and education:

- Before NC implemented in 1980s girls taught needlework and domestic science.
- Boys taught carpentry and science.
- Heavily gendered subjects. Attitudes changing.

### Criticisms of Liberal feminists:

- In 2014 more women applied to university than men. But men are more likely to achieve top degrees.

### Marxist feminists and education:

- Cultural reproduction and power ideology.
- GRS from home and education. Shows why women accept a lower status than men.

### ➤ Areas of concern:

- Gendered language – Ann Oakely
- Gendered roles in books and hierarchy in schools – Kelly
- Gender stereotypes in reading schemes.
- Invisibility of women in the curriculum – symbolic annihilation – McKabe.
- Girls uncomfortable in male subject areas- Culley
- Lack of positive role models.

## **Feminist explanations of educational attainment.**

### Feminists and the hidden curriculum:

- Powerful reinforcement for gender stereotypes.
- McKabe – books between 1900 – 2000 – 31% had female central characters.
- Ann Fine – Gender stereotypes still acceptable in literature.

### Socialisation+ Definition

Role allocation  
Durkheim- social cohesion to culture  
Gorard criticism- exam results not cohesion

### Bridge

Talcott Parsons- home and wider world  
Particularistic values and universal values= clash?  
Criticism- Jackson, Connolly Francis- anti school culture  
Geek culture, clever or popular?

### Meritocracy

Davis and Moore allocate to jobs and careers  
Sifts and sorts children- role allocation  
Criticism- gender pay gap,

## Evaluate functionalist views of education

### Evaluation-

Inequalities in education- ethnicity,  
gender class not explained  
Socialisation- into what Marxists,  
Feminists, Racism?

### Advantages

- Sorts the most able for the best jobs.
- Provides a highly trained workforce.
- Bridges the gap between the values of home and school.
- Transmits culture to the children.

Definition

Biological differences  
Connell overstated  
Assumptions  
Wilkinson Gender quake  
Sexism in schools, subject, achievement

Causes

Feminists researched  
F- role in soc  
M- not impnt  
I- teachers n pupils share ideas  
Fe- patriarchy, now male under  
NR- agree F but address it  
P- gender is a choice- social control

Evaluate the relationship between Gender and Educational attainment. (EA)

WHY?

Genetic theories

Learn differently  
Separate classes single sex schools  
Why changing patterns?  
(teachers, pupils, curriculum)

Gender Socialisation

Sue Sharpe- home media and ed  
Nat curriculum  
Clarricoates- class affects subject choice,  
MC girls for boy subjects and WC traditional

School organisation

Exams favour girls, fewer male role models,  
Emphasis girls to take male subjects  
1980's cw favour girls  
Learning styles favoured girls- listen not active  
Boys 3 times likely excluded  
Hegemonic masc- Willis reject goals  
Francis males threatened by femininity

Feminism

Expectations  
Economic indep  
Sharpe 1970 husband in  
1990 career  
Masculinity in crisis

New Right

Single mothers  
Lack male role model  
WC biggest problem

**Definition**

Becker  
label-negative anti school  
subcultures positive succeed.  
Class gender ethnicity  
Lemert

**Explanations of school failure**

Ability grouping-  
streams higher confidence  
lower streams failures. Ireson no link  
between group and achievement  
Duckworth minor affect.  
But schools do set-  
absorb labels  
WC vulnerable  
Low expectations  
Self esteem

**Teacher practice and behaviour**  
**self fulfilling prophecy**

Rosenthal and Jacobson  
intelligence children California.  
boost of intelligence year later  
the children -positive label. Did  
better

**Gender**

Feminists discrimination 1970's  
Jones and Dindia (2004) praise boys more  
Stanworth (1983) found that careers  
teachers gave gendered advice.  
Becky Francis found that boys were less  
positively labelled

**Interactionist views on education**

**Evaluation**

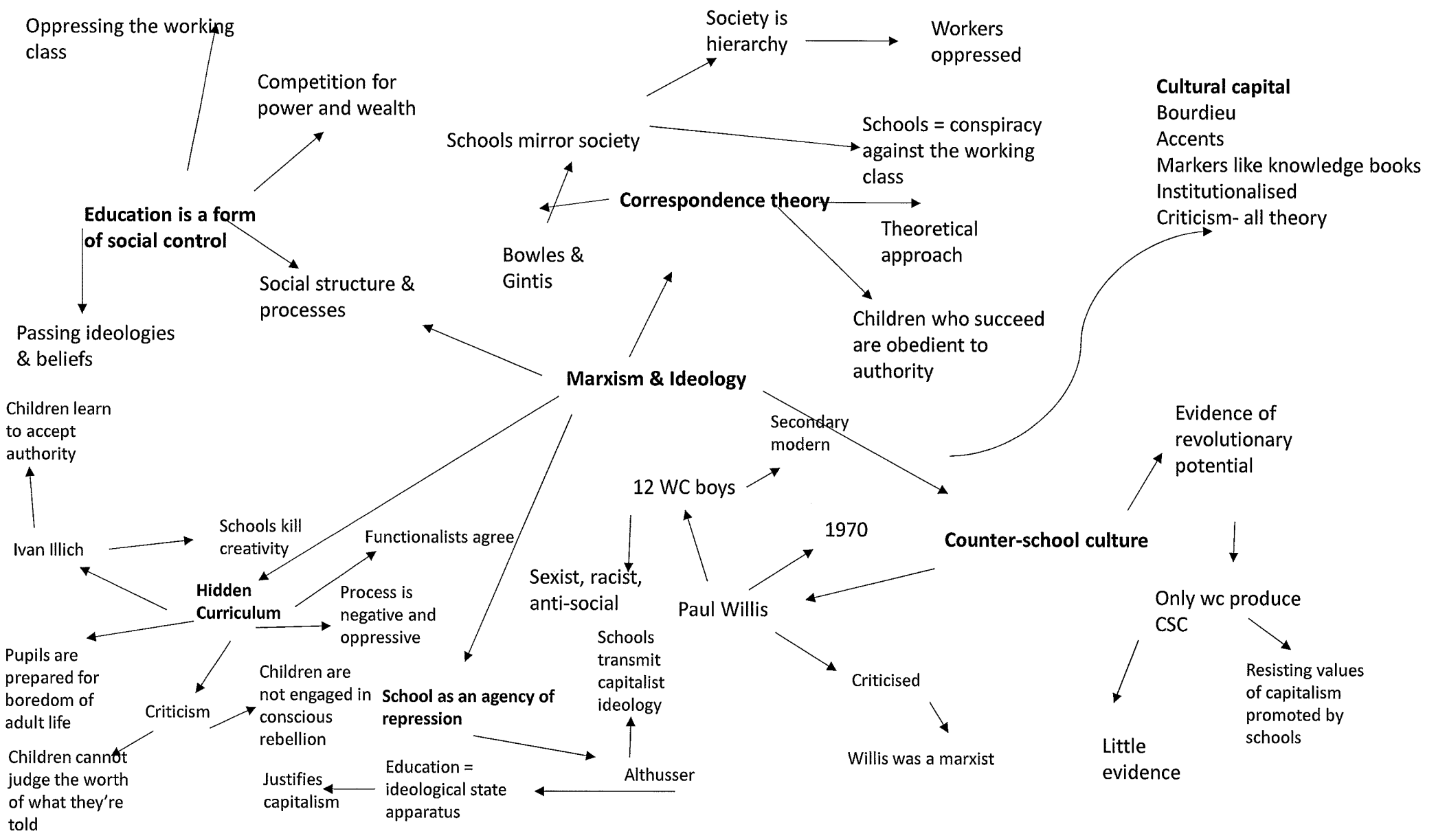
Based inside primary data  
Practical evidence can be used  
Weaknesses- small scale, dated, researchers biased  
Can reject labels

**Ethnicity**

Teacher racism =ethnic minority failure.  
Teachers racist- Coard, Mirza and Sewell.  
Modern studies not taken attitude to racism  
different now- studies dated

GASED





Very materialistic society  
Feinstein material poverty and Deprivation.

Data from 1970 test scores on predicting educational attainment based on family background- 22 month children. Who? Low income, single parent, wc, ethnic minority, large families London south Englan

Poverty and policy

Gvt data = link childhood poverty and adult poverty. Also ed attainment and earning potential  
Educational level of father biggest factor to predict adult poverty  
Best route out of poverty is education

Environmental factors

New right emphasis lone parents

- Parental qualifications- ambition?
- Housing stock- Scottish data
- Poor health behaviours eg smoking in front of children
- Nutrition- obesity and poverty Avon longit study- Poor diet- more time spent away from school.
- Number in a household- dual earners get better houses  
May have to share a bedroom- no where quiet to study for exams.
- Goodman and Gregg poor have weak learning environments. Lack of computer and internet- less convenient to complete GCSE cw. Fewer books at home.
- Archer- poor bullied due to clothing

Material factors and deprivation

Criticisms

Many working class children do achieve academically despite coming from poor backgrounds.

Labelling Theory:

- Suggested teachers contributed to children's failure and they viewed pupil's as the victims.
- Willis (1977)- discovered that working class boys actively developed a set of attitudes and a subculture which sought failure.

PAVEL

## Perspectives

Similar to Functionalists.  
Meritocracy is good failure  
due to lack of effort  
Competition good in  
education

Want to allow  
freedom of  
choice – parents  
can choose the  
education best  
fitted for their  
children

## Evaluation

-Exam results improved- grade inflation?  
Gorard and also Gerwitz MC choose better  
schools= academies=better funded  
-Poverty cause of low standards losers too  
-New right say education should:  
1)Competition encouraged= efficiency  
2)Employers need to have a workforce  
3)Challenge needed to improve standards  
4)Equal opportunity and meritocracy  
5)Freedom of choice and school  
6)Accountable teachers and schools for results  
7)Success measured by results

## New Right and educational attainment

### Three strands of Policy making

- 1)Central control of assessments Nat curric, exam system and funding- in gvt depts hands
- 2)Funding for specific projects key targets lifelong learning inclusion deprived children- schools clever to apply for funds
- 3)Assessment by outcome target setting performance league tables and pay related

### Why schools fail

- Comprehensive education is poor
- grammar and secondary schools gone= selection gone
- Chubb and Moe fee paying schools better results because private
- School discipline worse = results bad
- Lack of accountability to parents governors no incentive to improve
- Active teaching methods a failure
- Teachers Marxist and left wing
- Inefficient use of resources not business focus- dependency and welfare state

### Inspectors say failure due to exam focus reforms brought in

- Competition schools and pupils
- Power local councils reduced running schools
- Employers go into schools
- Increased testing inspection publication results

### Definition

Modernity-Society is getting better, progressing.  
Postmodernism rejects the view that anything is certain

### Living in post modernity

Describes modern culture  
Pick and mix  
Image everything  
Technology changing  
Spiritual and cultural mix  
Individualistic  
Consumeristic  
Virtually absorbed  
Unpredictable society  
Information rich

## Postmodernism and Educational attainment

### Critics

Chomsky- no facts or evidence  
Diversity in past too  
No explanation just a description  
Dawkins empty of meaning  
Knowledge relative what is postmodernism?

### Marxists

Ignores structural problems  
Splits society into C A G E  
Hill says schools target union members  
Inequality is ignored

### Societal values

Truth relative and personal  
Schools should offer variety of values  
Schools not value free

### Identity and understanding

Individuals are personal constructs  
Identity pick and mix

### Knowledge

Biased  
All construct it  
Gender and learning changed  
Knowledge is a discourse

### Culture

F leads to oppression  
Schools shd teach tolerance  
and diversity not fixed ideas