

# Popular Culture

## From Post-Colonial Theory to Popular Culture and Education, and beyond!

EDUCATORS DO NOT CONSIDER THE ISSUE OF CREATING TEXTS. IN CONTRAST, BY ALLOWING STUDENTS TO FORM THEIR OWN LEARNING THROUGH MEDIA, THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHERE THEY MAKE MISTAKES AND BUILD ON RESEARCH SKILLS AS WELL AS, LEARN INDEPENDENTLY.

IS THIS A GOOD IDEA?!



NLS WITH REFERENCE TO BLACK SUGGESTS, "YOUTH WHO CREATE DERIVATIVE TEXTS ARE FAR FROM BEING 'MINDLESS CONSUMERS' AND REPRODUCERS OF EXISTING MEDIA" (ALVERMANN, 2011, 31)

POST COLONIALISM MOVES BEYOND WESTERN STEREOTYPES AND BIASES; IT MOVES BEYOND UNIVERSAL STANDARDS OF JUDGMENT AND ALLOWS DIVERSITY OF OPINION IN LITERARY CRITICISM (APPLE MAN, 2009, 87)

EVERY STUDENT HAS THE RIGHT TO OPINION. EDUCATORS TEACH THEIR STUDENTS ABOUT THE CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS IN GRADE 5 SOCIAL STUDIES. THUS, STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THAT THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO OPINION AND EXPRESSION.

HOWEVER, EDUCATORS MUST TEACH THEIR STUDENTS ABOUT THE LIMITS OF THESE RIGHTS AND TO WHAT EXTENT THESE RIGHTS CAN BE USED. MEDIA IS AN EXCELLENT FORM TO 'RESIST' STEREOTYPES OR DISCRIMINATION BUT, ONLY WHEN USED IN A PROPER MANNER AND AS EDUCATORS WE MUST TEACH OUR STUDENTS TO USE A RESPECTFUL FORM OF EXPRESSION.

IS MEDIA THE RIGHT WAY TO 'RESIST'?



RESISTANCE AS PER STACK AND KELLY (2006) IS DEFINED AS "OPPOSITION

HOW IS POPULAR CULTURE PRACTICED BY YOUR STUDENTS?

AS PER MORELL (2007), "... EDUCATORS NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE WAYS THAT POPULAR CULTURE IS PRACTICED BY THEIR STUDENTS, IN THEIR NORMS, THEIR BEHAVIOUR, THEIR DRESS, THEIR ACTIVITIES, IN ADDITION TO THEIR SELECTION OF CDS, DVDS, MAGAZINES, AND WEBSITES." (249)

BY OBSERVING STUDENTS IN THE FORMS OF POPULAR CULTURE THEY INDULGE IN AS WELL AS, THEIR CHARACTERISTICS, EDUCATORS ARE BETTER ABLE TO ENGAGE STUDENTS IN ADVANCED LITERACY AND THUS, STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THESE FORMS OF TEXTS BETTER.

STUDENTS WILL ADVANCE IN THEIR LITERACY SKILLS, HOWEVER, THE ASSUMPTIONS THAT THESE STUDENTS WILL EARN HIGHER INCOMES AND WILL BE MORE LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS IS QUESTIONABLE.

DID DONALD TRUMP ATTAIN ADVANCED LITERACY TO WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTIONS. HIS SPEECHES SUGGEST OTHERWISE...

"I F I WERE TO RUN, I'D RUN AS A REPUBLICAN. THEY'RE THE DUMBEST GROUP OF VOTES IN THE COUNTRY. THEY LOVE ANYTHING ON FOX NEWS. I COULD LIE AND THEY'D EAT IT UP. I BET MY NUMBERS WOULD BE TERRIFIC."



**"Once students are confident in their reading, and once they understand the power of reading, they will be far more motivated to approach canonical and disciplinary texts" (Morrell, 2007, 249)**

**GOOD VS BAD  
REPRESENTATIONS  
IN MEDIA?**

HMM...



**IT IS IMPORTANT FOR EDUCATORS TO  
CONSIDER THE CONTENT OF THESE MUSIC  
VIDEOS BEFORE SHOWING THEM TO THE  
CLASS.**

**CONSIDER:**

**WHAT VALUES ARE REPRESENTED?  
GOOD OR BAD?**

**DO THEY DEEPEN DISCUSSION?**

**ARE STUDENTS ABLE TO ARTICULATE  
THEIR VIEWS ON SOCIAL ISSUES FROM  
WHAT THEY SEE IN THESE MUSIC VIDEOS?**

**"MASKELL DISCUSSED THE  
USE OF MUSIC VIDEOS FOR  
TEACHING ENGLISH, SAYING  
THE CONTENT HAS "HUGE  
POTENTIAL FOR USE  
ACROSS THE ENTIRE  
ENGLISH  
CURRICULUM" (MCCLAIN,  
2016)**

**MCCLAIN (2016) STATES,  
"THEY [MUSIC VIDEOS] ARE  
OFTEN CONTROVERSIAL,  
WORKING AS A COMPELLING  
CATALYST FOR CRITICAL  
DISCUSSION AND THUS ABLE  
TO HELP STUDENTS IDENTIFY  
IMPORTANT ISSUES, THEN  
ARTICULATE THEIR VIEWS ON  
SOCIAL OR POLITICAL  
MATTERS."**