

Tempo, tivsel og praestation – ny og klassik udsathed i ungdomslivet

Between the Imperatives of Parametric Optimization and the Longing for Resonance – Growing Up in the Age of Social Acceleration



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Parametric Optimization vs. Resonance

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Outline

- 1) Dynamic Stabilization and Parametric Optimization: Being socialized into a mode of Aggression
- 2) An alternative mode of Being: Education and the Yearning for Resonance
- 3) About the current crisis: A few insights

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I. Dynamic Stabilization and Parametric Optimization



Definition:

A society can be called *modern* when its *mode of stabilization is dynamic*, i.e: when it systematically requires (material) growth, (technological) acceleration and (cultural) innovation to reproduce its structure and to maintain the institutional status quo.

I. Being Socialized into a Mode of Aggression –

- Schools ‚produce‘ subjects which accelerate, innovate, achieve growth
- Mode of interaction = competition
- Accumulation of skills – social, cultural, bodily capital
- Logic of parametric optimization: ‚Measurable‘, comparable and improvable skills, states, achievements
- Dominant mode of approaching the world (of people, things and interactions) = Mode of aggression
- Aggression towards nature: Burn-up
- Aggression towards socio-political opponents: Burn them
- Auto-Aggression: Burn-out

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I As a Result: A ,burnt‘ Generation - Wasted youth??

Definition:

Alienation:

- A distortion in the mode of relating to the world.
- A failure to appropriate the world
- A ,relationship without (true) relation‘:
Feeling un-connected to one’s past or future and disconnected from people, places, things, body
- The world is experienced as cold, bleak, grey, indifferent, deaf; and the self is experienced in the same way.
- Paradigm case: Depression or burnout
- Lack of meaning (affection), Lack of power (self efficacy; SE)

II Education and the Yearning for Resonance

Definition:

Resonance is a mode of being in/relating to the world marked by

- a) af←fection: Feeling truly moved, touched by something; feeling ‚called upon‘
- b) e→motion (self-efficacy): Being capable of reaching out, answering
- c) Transformation: „After that, I was a different person“
- d) essential un-predictability („Unverfügbarkeit“)
 - 1) You cannot ensure it will happen
 - 2) You cannot predict its outcome→ A Problem for educational research and educational politics...

II Education and the Yearning for Resonance

- The ‚real‘ goal of education: Opening up the four axes of resonance:
 - a) The social/horizontal axis: Love, friendship, politics
 - b) The material/diagonal axis: Work, **Education**, Sports
 - c) The existential/vertical axis: Religion, Nature, Art, History
 - d) The self-axis of resonance: Body, Psyche, Emotion, Memory
- Resonance is not an echo or harmony, but a transformative mode of encountering the ‚other‘. It bridges the gap between identity and difference
- Youths need to have a right to refuse resonance (at times)
- Resonance is the primordial mode of relating to the world

III About the current crisis: A few insights

Claim: In times of the pandemics (Lockdown, Suspicion, Zoomification), it is life-threateningly dangerous to be young:

- **Phenomenology of the digital: We can see each other – but can't look into each others eyes (not face to face)**
- **The relevance of physical co-presence: ontological security**
- **The importance of the detour and the dense energy of a mirco-interactional field**
- **Finding your place in the world:**
 - **When, what, where and whether you eat breakfast**
 - **Do I find someone to talk to? Friends?**
 - **Should I go for sports, cinema, politics or music?**

III About the current crisis: A few insights

Claim:

„Forced mode of aggression“ towards the world

+

**pandemic blocking of the dense field of (semi-random)
micro-interaction**

=

serious loss of resonance for the youngsters

+

**loss of innovational power and transformative creativity
for society.**

→ It is time to make a change!!!



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Thank you for your resonance!

