

Glossary entry

Living logic: If "... logic is the mode of thought that is appropriate for comprehending the real as rational" (Marcuse) then a living logic structures an individual's explanation of their educational influences in their own learning, in the learning of others and in the learning of the social formations in which they live, work and research.

Further explanation

A living logic for educational research has emerged from the enquiry, 'How do I improve what I am doing in my professional practice?' It has emerged in the logic that characterises the explanations, or living theories, produced by practitioner researchers as they explain their educational influences in their own learning, in the learning of others and in the learning of the social formations in which we live, work and research. The explanations include insights from both propositional and dialectical theories of education and constitute the growth of an individual's educational knowledge.

The living logic includes both living contradictions and a relationally dynamic awareness of space and boundaries. The meanings of the living logic for educational research required both ostensive expressions of meaning communicated through digital visual data and lexical definitions of meaning. The living logic remains in a direct relationship with the practical, values laden enquiries, 'How do I improve what I am doing?' and the explanations of educational influence in learning that are produced in such enquiries.

The living logic distinguishes a form of rationality that can integrate insights from propositional and dialectical theories without denying the rationality of these logics. A living logic for educational research, with its requirement of visual data for the communication of meanings of the expression of embodied values as explanatory principles has implications for extending the present solely text-based publications of BERA, into multi-media, on-line Journals.

Conclusion from: Whitehead, Jack ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9644-0785> (2013) A living logic for educational research. In: 2013 Annual Conference of the British Educational Research Association, 3-5 September 2013, University of Sussex, UK. (Unpublished)

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