

# Educational Diversity

## The Subject of Difference and Different Subjects

Edited by Yvette Taylor

**"Taylor's powerful scholarly collection breathes a breath of fresh air to the whole messy and confusing 'diversity' debate, showing the impact of the bureaucratic 'diversity' malaise on the day to day reality of underrepresented and disadvantage groups who live within the struggle and fight back. This book is vital reading for all those who care about social justice and equality in our places of learning and teaching."** - Heidi Safia Mirza, University of London, UK and author of *Respecting Difference: Race, Faith and Culture for Teacher Educators*

**"This is a rich wide-ranging edited collection informed by the vivid vocabularies of feminisms, cultural sociology as well as the classic sociological concerns with class. All the contributions though are shaped by a common intellectual and political ambition to perturb the normative regulation of those deemed as 'different'. These authors resist 'diversity' as a perfunctory performance indicator', to show that who is made 'diverse' or who can trade in 'diversity', works as an incipient geometry of power. This collection is therefore to be welcomed as it puts this formation under powerful scrutiny generating important resources for educators committed to asking awkward questions of educational and social inequalities."** - Valerie Hey, University of Sussex, UK

'Diversity' has become a key term in contemporary social theory, politics and practice and is often used as both a description of complex social realities and a prescription for how those realities should be valued, assessed and managed. As 'diversity' is increasingly invoked in changing educational landscapes it is pulled in different directions: as capital, cure, caveat and check. In considering diversity in education this collection explores the relationship between new equality regimes and continued societal inequalities, exploring change, ambivalence and resistance as negotiated and differently inhabited in and through policies, institutional practices and everyday encounters. Uniquely, it brings together a focus on (post)compulsory education, seeking to more fully situate educational journeys and experiences of staff, students and pupils. Current considerations of diversity are placed within different changing educational contexts from the UK, Ireland, Australia and Taiwan. These perspectives aim to situate discussion of diversity across time and place - including discussion of who is diverse, the feeling of diversity, legislating for diversity, and enabling diverse pedagogies.

YVETTE TAYLOR is Professor in Social and Policy Studies and Head of the Weeks Centre, London South Bank University, UK. Books include *Working-Class Lesbian Life: Classed Outsiders, Lesbian and Gay Parenting*, and *Fitting Into Place? Class and Gender Geographies and Temporalities*. Edited collections include *Classed Intersections; Theorizing Intersectionality and Sexuality and Sexualities: Reflections and Futures*. She has held a Fulbright Scholarship at Rutgers University, USA.

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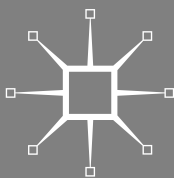
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