

Identitary And Biographical Construction and Life Project: The Perspectives According to High School Students in Brazil

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Abstract

The present paper is the result of a research carried out in a public school in a city located in the interior of the state of São Paulo/Brazil. It proposes to analyse the module “Life Project”, a component of the curriculum of high schools’ institutions that have the IEP - Integral Education Program. The central focus of the analysis is based on established principles alongside contents worked with the subjects and the students’ feelings regarding the subjects and the proposition of a life project. The categories of analysis of the research were : the sentiment of passage from childhood to adolescence; the biographical and identitary construction, the sense of socio-emotional skills and preparation for work.

Along these lines, this longitudinal research has been following a group of ten students from junior to senior years of the high school institution partaker to the research. As a conclusion, it has been considered that there is an excessive focus on issues such as socio-emotional skills, social proactiveness, self-confidence, self-responsibility, empathy, determination, assertiveness, stress tolerance, and creative imagination, it all beholds a great load of responsibility on the students themselves but promotes little to no reflection on the educational institution and its own institutional responsibility. Aspects such as public politics that could support these youngsters, in order to enable them a real choice in the definition of their future profession; providing them with cultural and social experiences that would allow these young people to expand to what Bourdieu (2007) calls cultural and social capital; providing them with economic support so that they can continue studying are some of the examples that constitute a real contribution for students to build their life project, within the construction of their identity and biography.

Keywords: Life Project, Identity, Education and work, High school