IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDENT-CENTRED PEDAGOGY IN TURKEY: SOME CRITICAL REFLECTIONS FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

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PEDAGOGY

- Growing interest in pedagogy
- Pedagogy and education quality
- Child-centred pedagogy as a panacea
- The scale of its diffusion
- The rationale for widespread adherence to CCP
- The Turkish case
STUDENT-CENTRED PEDAGOGY IN TURKEY

- Curriculum 2004
  - Content
  - Assessment
  - Pedagogical approach
- Rationale for curricular change
- EU harmonisation
- International test results (PIRLS, PISA)
SCP IN CURRICULUM 2004

- Student participation
- Classroom activities
- Hands-on learning
- Use of learning aids
- Variety in teaching and learning methods
- Integration of ICTs
- Research assignments
**Methodology**

- **Fieldwork**
  - Turkey (Spring 2009)

- **Sample**
  - Public schools in Ankara (N=8)
  - School management, teachers and key informants

- **Methods**
  - Interviews
  - Classroom observations
  - Document analysis
## Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Participants/Grades</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Interviews</td>
<td>School management</td>
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<td>Teachers</td>
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<td>Key informants</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td>Primary 5</td>
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TEACHER VIEWS ON SCP

- SCP as the progressive/modern pedagogy
- Reflections on its European origin
- Differences of opinion on the terminology and originality
- Perceived outcomes:
  - Increased student participation
  - Enjoyable lessons
  - Improvement in self-confidence, expression and creativity
- Learning achievement
COMMON INDICATORS OF CHANGE IN CLASSROOMS

- Classroom activities
- Student talk
- Use of aids
- Performance and project assignments
- ICTs
- Research assignments
IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- Inadequate teacher training
- Large class size
- Lack of materials
- Examination system
- Students’ lack of responsiveness
- Parental opposition
- Teacher resistance
CONCLUSION

- The gap between policy and practice
- The importance of contextual realities and capacities
- Is SCP the most appropriate pedagogy?
- Contextually informed pedagogy
- Need for research for understanding how to develop contextual pedagogy
REFERENCES


