



1st ed. 2020, XVI, 286 p. 1 illus.

Printed book

Hardcover

74,99 € | £64.99 | \$89.99 [1]80,24 € (D) | 82,49 € (A) | CHF 88,50

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Michael S. Merry

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Liberal Ideals, Persistent Inequality, and the Constructive Uses of Critique

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- · Offers a broad, comparative approach not limited to the American context
- · Provides a strong anti-paternalist rationale for educational justice

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This book examines the philosophical, motivational, and practical challenges of education theory, policy, and practice in the twenty-first century. There is a loud and persistent drum beat of support for schools, for citizenship, for diversity and inclusion, and increasingly for labor market readiness with very little critical attention to the assumptions underlying these agendas, let alone to their many internal contradictions. Merry does not neglect the historical, comparative international context so essential to better understanding where we are, as well as what is attainable in terms of educational justice. He argues that we must constructively critique some of our most cherished beliefs about education if we are to save the hope of real justice from the rhetoric of imagined justice.



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