

How to Change Education

Dc at The Lazy Trout 24 Feb 2014

Based on Sir Ken Robinson's RSA lecture of the same name.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEsZOnyQzxQ> and Derek Tatton's notes for the Mugge discussion of 14 Jan 2014

Do we agree with KR?

there are 4 purposes for Education...

Economic - An IBM review of interviews with 1800 leaders of organisations in 80 countries highlighted their top two priorities as Creativity and Adaptability. Sir Ken thinks our education system discourages both these competencies.

Cultural - conflicts around the World are not often economic they tend to be cultural.

Social – engagement in understanding our organisations and government.

Personal.- We are diverse but our education systems expect us to conform.....

the current system was designed for a different age

'academic' models create difficulties, causing the 'non-academic' and 'vocational' to lose out.

standardised testing discourages lateral and divergent thinking

politicians want 'measurement', results and league tables: international, national and local. Take *Pisa* statistics and concerns, for example and control from above

here's the key problem: those political demands from above do not help provide the 'adaptability' and 'creativity' which are most beneficial to the economy, industry, society - and to us individual human beings.

The core of education is the teacher and learner all else is a distraction

Children are learning organisms who will learn anyway

use of the web and new technologies are radically changing teaching and learning anyway - take MOOCs (Massive Open On-line Courses) for example.

hence, there's a crucial need to review and re-shape education policies and systems, building from below (slow learning political leaders will catch up later...).

Teaching is an art form – you need to know your stuff but crucially you need to excite and motivate the learners.

Get kids to teach themselves and others.

It could all start now in the microclimate of a school.