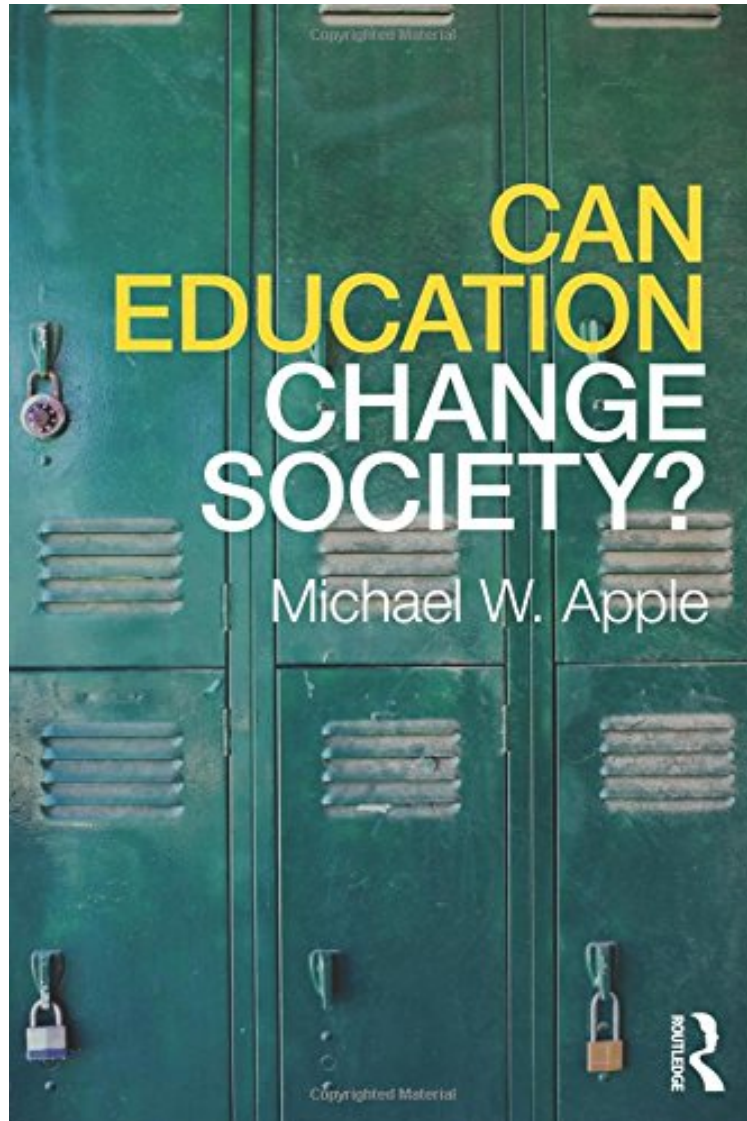


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## Can Education Change Society?

*Michael W. Apple*

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**Michael W. Apple : Can Education Change Society?** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Can Education Change Society?:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Treatise on education for liberation By M. Knoester This is an outstanding book that carefully examines the impact that schooling has had on poor and marginalized communities. Schools are certainly not perfect, but they can and have had liberatory effects on people. Apple is neither a cynic nor is he naive and this book sheds light on possibilities for education as liberation. 1 of 4 people found the following review

helpful. very tedious and tiring read  
By Diana Cepsyte  
Takes a really long time to get to an answer... I read a similar review and was skeptical, but now agree... It's like he's pulling rabbits out of a hat or something, long sentences and just tiring to read.. Got some alright things for my school paper though..3 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Blah  
By Amy Campbell  
Had to read this for one of my grad school classes. Granted our professor later clarified it was written in a more European style but I thought his prose was long winded and took forever to make his point.

Despite the vast differences between the Right and the Left over the role of education in the production of inequality one common element both sides share is a sense that education can and should do something about society, to either restore what is being lost or radically alter what is there now. The question was perhaps put most succinctly by the radical educator George Counts in 1932 when he asked "Dare the School Build a New Social Order?", challenging entire generations of educators to participate in, actually to lead, the reconstruction of society. Over 70 years later, celebrated educator, author and activist Michael Apple revisits Counts now iconic works, compares them to the equally powerful voices of minoritized people, and again asks the seemingly simple question of whether education truly has the power to change society. In this groundbreaking work, Apple pushes educators toward a more substantial understanding of what schools do and what we can do to challenge the relations of dominance and subordination in the larger society. This touchstone volume is both provocative and honest about the ideological and economic conditions that groups in society are facing and is certain to become another classic in the canon of Apples work and the literature on education more generally.

"The strength of Apple's book is the combination of theoretical and empirical approaches, which he analyses from a personal and reflective perspective. He encourages us to think about our own actions as educators in how we respond to the questions, can education change society?..The great strength of this remarkable and ground breaking work is Michael Apples own overwhelming passion for justice, equality and his continuing fight to making a real contribution to changing society. Its an enjoyable and engaging read that will appeal to education students, academics, practitioners and activists who are equally committed to making a more equitable and just society."- Kalwant Bhopal, University of Southampton, UK, Race, Ethnicity and Education "Education can certainly change society, but as Apple shows, not necessarily in ways that critical and progressive educators might wish. He encourages us to take heed of the conservative modernisation efforts by the right through the alliance of neoliberal, neoconservative and populist religious movements to use education both as a site of, and a tool for, social transformation, in order to learn how to bring about counter-hegemonic efforts."- Stewart Riddle Faculty of Education, University of Southern Queensland, Australia, Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education "...these books (Can Education Change Society? and Knowledge, Power, and Education) together reminds us that all our individual and local counter-hegemonic efforts in our own colleges, departments, and home communities need to reach out to similar and more regional and national movements. It is the only through such efforts of counter-hegemonic extension that "decentered unities" are formed and Badiouian events occur. Although Badiouian events appear to happen suddenly and out of nowhere, in fact they typically follow years and decades (sometime centuries) of counter-hegemonic struggle.Apple's body of work, generally, and his most recent two books in particular, are a reminder and guide to the "realization of the importance of understanding the connections among intersecting power relations and working toward the long-term goals involved in building [what Williams called] 'the long revolution'" - Hans G Despain, Nichols College Massachusetts, Marx Philosophy of Books "For scholars and researchers in the field of comparative and international education, this current book adds to both the depth and breadth of our ongoing conversation with Apples scholarship. ... this book deserves to be both read and taught." -Comparative Education About the AuthorMichael W. Apple is John Bascom Professor of Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Policy Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.