

Apr 8th, 2:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Art Unbound: Youth Participatory Action Research as Pedagogy

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Youth Participatory Action Research as Classroom Pedagogy

Upstate Research
Symposium

April 8, 2022

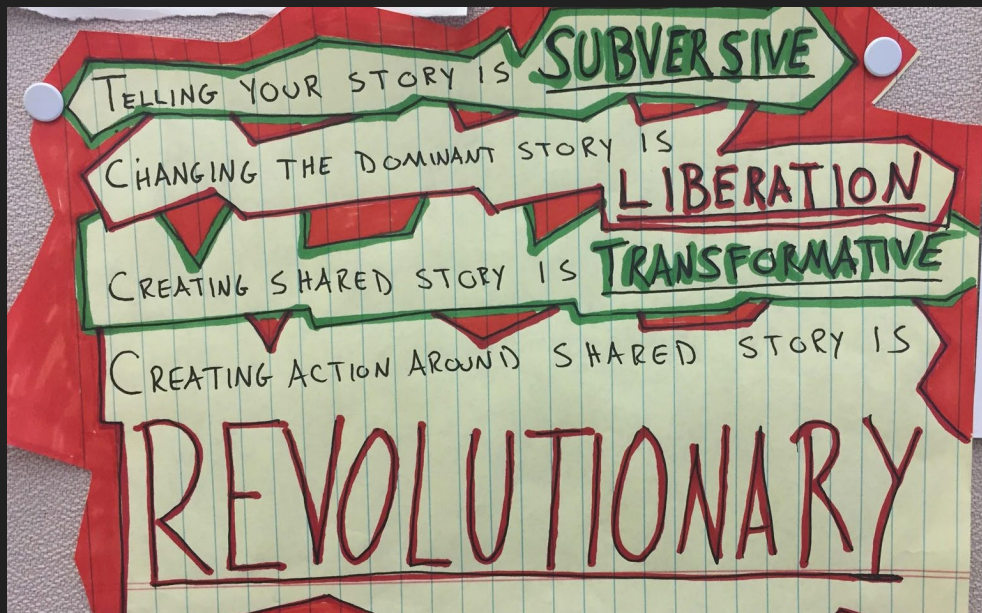
Dr. Derek Fenner



Research Questions

- What does art-centered youth participatory action research (YPAR) look like?
- How does art-centered YPAR develop engagement in and a deepened understanding of learning?
- What are the implications of using art-centered YPAR for young people in anticipating and analyzing the contradictions of life, social phenomena, late stage capitalism, and the current educational system?
- How can art-centered YPAR, when implemented as a classroom practice, support educators in being more student-centered and culturally and linguistically relevant?

Conceptual Framework



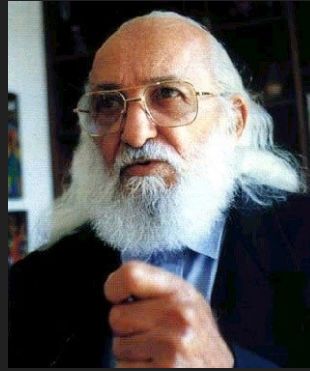
Youth
Participatory
Action
Research
&
a/r/tography

Literature

Culturally Relevant
Pedagogy & Contemporary
Art Practices



Social Justice Education



Contemporary Art



Community-Based Education

“A passion for learning together . . . that is formed
communally . . . creating a bond . . . with a shared repertoire
of resources.” (Duncan-Andrade & Morrell, 2008)

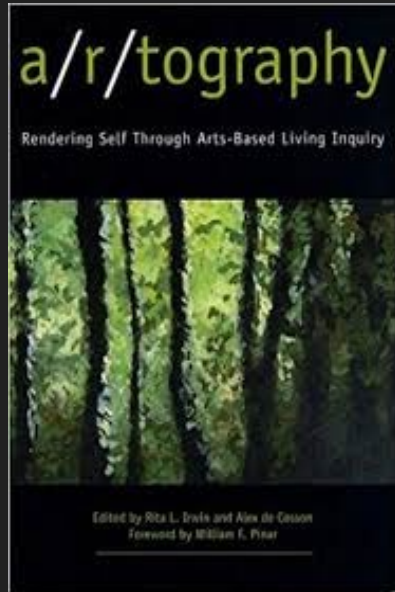


Caring For &
Problematizing
a/r/tography

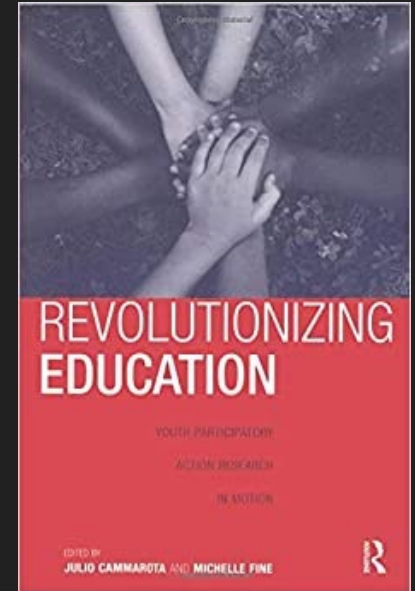
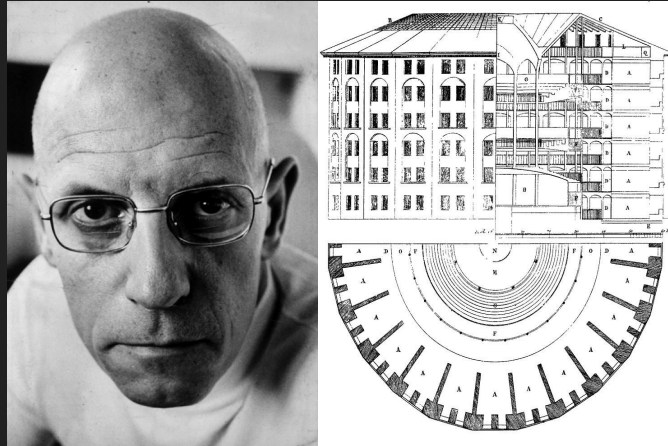
Literature

YPAR as
Classroom
Pedagogy

**“I am / (researching) / the process
/ of my own doing.”** Alex de Cosson



Performing Theory



Methods - Participants & Data Collection



Participants

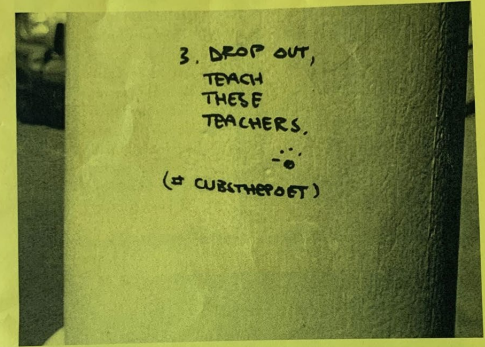
Focus groups,

Creative work,

Interviews,

& Fieldnotes

GATEWAY CONFERENCE



FOR
EDUCATORS

MAY 16, 2015

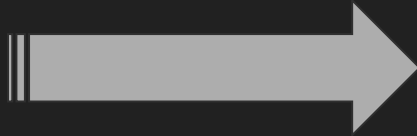
CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE



Methods

YPAR

&



a/r/tography

Case Study of a
Curricular Practice

What does art-centered
youth participatory action
research look like?

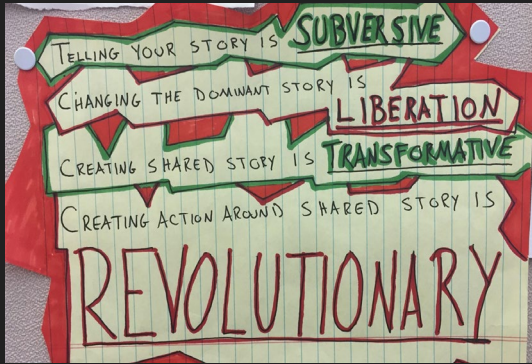
Methods

Inductive Analysis - *Grounded Theory*

Culturally And Linguistically Relevant Learning

Deepening Confidence and Building Motivation For Agency

The Art of Collaboration



Deductive Analysis

When Teachers are Human and Humans are Teachers

The Rest of Life as Data and Inspiration



Findings

What does art-centered youth participatory action research look like?

Youth as Artists

Youth as Researchers

Youth as Teachers

Findings

Culturally & Linguistically Relevant Learning

Culture is everything! Who we are in relation to our students matters.

Deepening Confidence and Building Motivation For Agency

“I think that these classes, made me feel like I broke out of my shell...I'm constantly making art now and it allows me to process things going on in my life in a different way than before. Like I'm in control.”

Findings

The Art of Collaboration

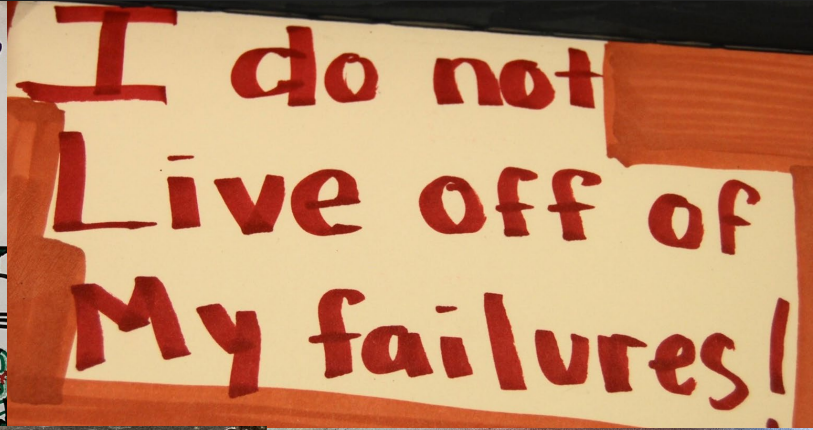
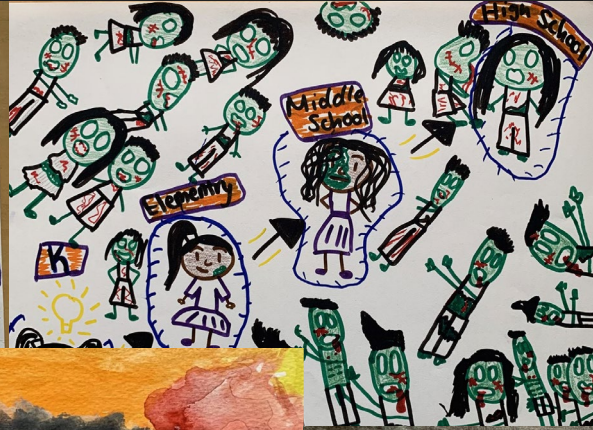
“Who is the smartest person in the room?” The answer 100% of the time is the room.

When Teachers are Human and Humans are Teachers

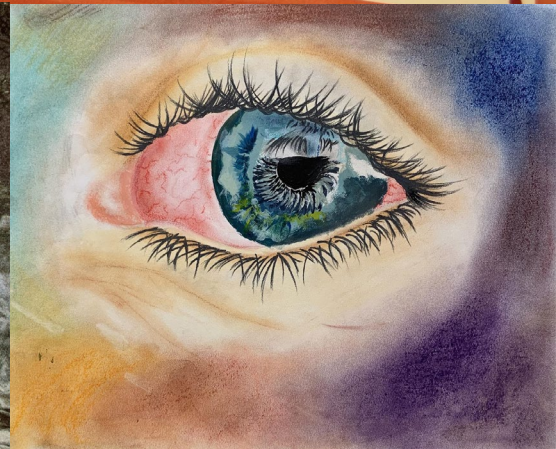
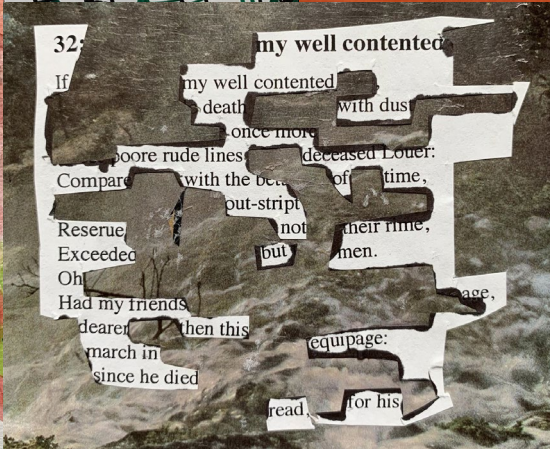
“From a kid's perspective, when you're sitting down in a desk, you're looking at a teacher, not as a person, but as a robot that's passing information. At the conference, I actually got to see them as a person, and actually got to communicate with them, human to human. It felt good.”

Findings

The Rest of Life as Data and Inspiration



We
Do
Exist



Contribution to the Field

Here's what I know to be true:

Be Artful (always embrace creativity)

Reflect on Impact (your intent means nothing)

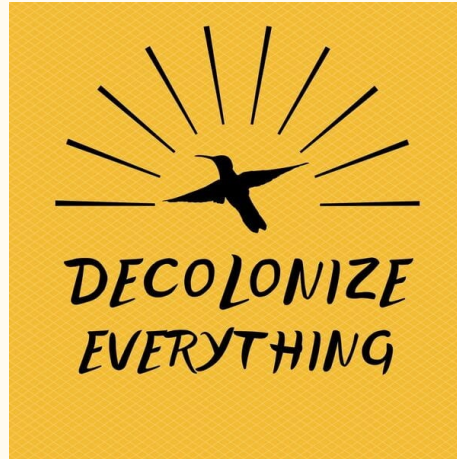
Decolonize Lack (others cannot determine your ability)

Resist Negativity (you are just right)

Anticipate Contradictions (it isn't you)

Generate Joy (don't 'yuck someone's yum')

WHAT SEPARATES



KEEPS US FRAGILE

