

Illuminating the Way of Knowing :

The Discourse of Spirituality and New Imagination of the Children

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How have most of children been watched, understood, imaged, gazed and treated in our daily life? What kind of grids, ideology or worldviews embedded in the contexts of pedagogy and education had formatted our imagination of the children as well as their possibilities and creativity? How could the discourse of spirituality from the New Age in general and “the Seth Material” in particular bring some new insights for us to re-imagine the children in terms of their selves, the reality and the world? This paper tries to argue that we should reconsider and reexamine our knowing about the children, because the ways how we know the children might lead to a limited, even negative imagination of children and their possibilities.

More and more spiritual information provided by the thinkers of the New Age, such as the message from “the Seth Material”, may offer us a new way of knowing children. The core teachings of “the Seth Material” are based on the principle that consciousness creates matter. According to the Seth, the narrator in “the Seth Material”, each individual creates his or her own reality through thoughts, beliefs and desires, and that the present moment is the “point of power” through which the individual can effectuate the change. Due to the fact that the nature of education is all about the becoming of human beings and thus what kind of children image we hold will determine our pedagogical practice. In this paper we will thus try to portrait an alternate understanding of children and the possible new agenda for education.