

IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDENT- CENTRED PEDAGOGY IN TURKEY: SOME CRITICAL REFLECTIONS FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS



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PEDAGOGY

- Growing interest in pedagogy
- Pedagogy and education quality
- Child-centred pedagogy as a panacea
- The scale of its diffusion
- The rationale for widespread adherence to CCP
- The Turkish case



STUDENT-CENTRED PEDAGOGY IN TURKEY

- Curriculum 2004
 - Content
 - Assessment
 - Pedagogical approach
- Rationale for curricular change
- EU harmonisation
- International test results (PIRLS, PISA)



SCP IN CURRICULUM 2004

- Student participation
- Classroom activities
- Hands-on learning
- Use of learning aids
- Variety in teaching and learning methods
- Integration of ICTs
- Research assignments



METHODOLOGY

- **Fieldwork**

- Turkey (Spring 2009)

- **Sample**

- Public schools in Ankara (N=8)
 - School management, teachers and key informants

- **Methods**

- Interviews
 - Classroom observations
 - Document analysis



SAMPLE

| Methods | Participants/Grades | Total |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Interviews | School management | 14 |
| | Teachers | 69 |
| | Key informants | 13 |
| | TOTAL | 96 |
| Classroom observations | Primary 1 | 31 |
| | Primary 2 | 28 |
| | Primary 5 | 17 |
| | TOTAL | 76 |









TEACHER VIEWS ON SCP

- SCP as the progressive/ modern pedagogy
- Reflections on its European origin
- Differences of opinion on the terminology and originality
- Perceived outcomes:
 - Increased student participation
 - Enjoyable lessons
 - Improvement in self-confidence, expression and creativity
- Learning achievement



COMMON INDICATORS OF CHANGE IN CLASSROOMS

- Classroom activities
- Student talk
- Use of aids
- Performance and project assignments
- ICTs
- Research assignments



IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- Inadequate teacher training
- Large class size
- Lack of materials
- Examination system
- Students' lack of responsiveness
- Parental opposition
- Teacher resistance



CONCLUSION

- The gap between policy and practice
- The importance of contextual realities and capacities
- Is SCP the most appropriate pedagogy?
- Contextually informed pedagogy
- Need for research for understanding how to develop contextual pedagogy



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