

AFFECT AND THE RISE OF RIGHT-WING POPULISM

This book uses affect theory to analyze the rise of right-wing populism in recent years and discusses the pedagogical implications for democratic education. It provides examples of how affect and emotion play a crucial role in the rise and reproduction of current right-wing populism. The author suggests ideas about affective pedagogies for educators to use (along with recognizing the risks involved) to renew democratic education. The chapters lay out the importance of harnessing the power of affective experiences and adopting strategic pedagogical approaches to provide affirmative practices that move beyond simply criticizing right-wing populism. The book consequently undermines the power of fascist and right-wing tendencies in public life and educational settings without stooping to methods of indoctrination. This volume is a valuable resource for researchers and policymakers in education, political science and other related fields, who can utilize the affective complexities involved in combatting right-wing populism to their advantage.

MICHALINOS ZEMBYLAS is Professor of Educational Theory and Curriculum Studies at the Open University of Cyprus as well as Honorary Professor, Chair for Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation at Nelson Mandela University, South Africa. In 2016, he received the Distinguished Researcher Award in “Social Sciences and Humanities” from the Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation.

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Pedagogies for the Renewal of Democratic Education

MICHALINOS ZEMBYLAS

Open University of Cyprus



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For Galatia, Orestis and Mariza

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Acknowledgments

The idea for this book started to take form in 2015–2016, when I began noticing the increasing provocation by right-wing populist parties, movements and politicians around the world, especially after the election of Donald Trump in the United States and the refugee crisis in Europe. What preoccupied me from the beginning was the “affective atmospheres” that circulated across the rise of right-wing populist movements and its impact on democracy and education. So, this book began its life as a collection of essays – most of them already published but then reworked for the purposes of this publication – that explored various aspects of public and educational discourses on populism and interrelated phenomena (e.g., right-wing rhetoric, post-truth, fascism), and the pedagogical challenges of addressing populism in the current political climate. I cherish the intellectual opportunities that I’ve had over these years to discuss these ideas in formal and informal talks at several places around the world. I am grateful to my friends and colleagues for their remarkable generosity and hospitality to share their thoughts with me: Vivienne Bozalek and Tammy Shefer at the University of the Western Cape; Andre Keet at Nelson Mandela University; Zvi Bekerman at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Rob Hattam at the University of South Australia; Dorothee Hölscher at Griffith University; Fazal Rizvi at the University of Melbourne; Marie Brennan and Lew Zipin at the University of Victoria; Megan Boler at OISE-University of Toronto; Vanessa Andreotti and Sharon Stein at the University of British Columbia; Karin Gunnarsson at Stockholm University; Hugh Starkey at UCL Institute of Education, University College London; Yiannis Papadakis at the University of Cyprus; and Kevin Kester at Keimyung University. And, finally, a big thanks to my family – my wife, Galatia, and my two children, Orestis and Mariza, for their unconditional love and toleration, despite the numerous troubles I give them.

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