Jonathan Quang

Period 8

HW#77

Aristophanes offers a conservative's critique of modern education in numerous ways. One way is by providing an example of how sophist education results in misbehaving and rebellious children. Aristophanes writes, "Look, who do you (Pheidippides) think paid for you shyster education anyway? And now you propose to convince me (Strepsiades) that there's nothing wrong in whipping your own father? Pheidippides: I not only propose it; I propose to prove it. Irrefutably, in fact," (131). Strepsiades sent Phedippides to get a Sophist's education to talk their debtors into giving up their debt. Instead, Aristophanes criticizes new Sophist education by having Phedippides use that education to rationalize violence against his own father. Aristophanes also criticizes Sophist education by having the Thinkery burn. By having Strepsiades burn the Thinkery through "hearing" the will of the god for heresy, Aristophanes portrays Sophists as those who have turned their back against the old Greek gods.