# Mexican Education

The US education system has become a pedagogical dead zone– Critical thinking, creativity, and imagination are all being destroyed by Corporate School Reform and minorities are hit the worst – Thus we protest:

Giroux 8/13

Giroux, Henry. (Henry A. Giroux currently holds the Global TV Network Chair Professorship at McMaster University in the English and Cultural Studies Department and a Distinguished Visiting Professorship at Ryerson University. His most recent books include:  On Critical Pedagogy(Continuum, 2011), Twilight of the Social: Resurgent Publics in the Age of Disposability (Paradigm 2012), Disposable Youth: Racialized Memories and the Culture of Cruelty (Routledge 2012), Youth in Revolt: Reclaiming a Democratic Future (Paradigm 2013), and The Educational Deficit and the War on Youth(Monthly Review Press, 2013), America's Disimagination Machine (City Lights) and Higher Education After Neoliberalism (Haymarket) will be published in 2014). Giroux is also a member of Truthout's Board of Directors. His web site is [www.henryagiroux.com.](http://www.henryagiroux.com/))"When Schools Become Dead Zones of the Imagination: A Critical Pedagogy Manifesto." Truthout. N.p., 13 Aug. 2013. Web. 29 Sept. 2013. <http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/13367-the-corporate-war-against-teachers-as-public-intellectuals-in-dark-times>.

If the right-wing billionaires and apostles of corporate power have their way,

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also one that infuses both the imagination and hope for a better world.

This Corporate Public Education system represents a larger problem - American politics is dead – the extreme right controls mainstream discourse and an entirely depoliticized public is allowing the 1% to steer the US toward fascism

Giroux 11 [Henry A. Giroux, Global TV Network Chair in English and Cultural Studies at McMaster University, 1 June 2011, “Zombie Politics, Democracy, and the Threat of Authoritarianism - Part I”]

In the world of popular culture, zombies seem to be everywhere, as evidenced

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and is a far cry from any semblance of a claim to democracy.

The hegemony of the 1% causes planetary extinction

Ketcham 11 [Christopher Ketcham, contributor to Orion Magazine, has written for Vanity Fair, Harper's, The Nation, Mother Jones, November/December 2011, “The Reign of the One Percenters”, AND a postscript, “Reign of the Ninety-nine Percenters?”]

For the One Percenters are a global threat, found in every city where the

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, written since the occupation of Wall Street began, see Orion’s blog.]

[Ketcham continues]

When I wrote the first draft of “The Reign of the One Percenters”

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outrage, as a challenge to the authority of an immoral economic system.

Mexicans Children in specific are hit the hardest – People view them as not valuing education or higher thought. The mentality of deficit thinking is used as an excuse to not blame the structural problems with the political economic system

Valencia 2009

Valencia, Richard. Department of Educational Psychology The University of Texas at Austin” Mexican Americans Don't Value Education!" On the Basis of the Myth, Mythmaking, and Debunking." Journal of Latinos and Educaters. N.p., 13 Nov. 2009. Web. 30 Sept. 2013. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1207/S1532771XJLE0102\_2>.

We contend that the basis of the myth—Mexican Americans don’t value education—

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the gratuitous labeling of the behavior. (pp. 372–373)

Thus, in the spirit of Occupy Wall Street, Luisa and I occupy the debate space in resonance with American protests against the oppressive system of corporate education in hopes of bettering the education of Mexican students

As debaters, intellectuals, and students reliant on the education system, our only option is to occupy – higher education represents the last bastion of democratic dissent, but one threatened by ongoing corporatization. Only Occupying can politicize the debate-space and infuse the ballot with concrete political meaning

Giroux 11 [Henry A. Giroux, Global TV Network Chair in English and Cultural Studies at McMaster University, 21 November 2011, “Occupy Colleges Now: Students as the New Public Intellectuals”]

Finding our way to a more humane future demands a new politics, a new

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cultural conditions that are essential both to their future and to democracy itself.

**An imposed top-down curriculum can only be anti-democratic**

Smyth 10 (John Smyth is a research professor of education at the University of Ballarat. 2010. *Revolutionizing Pedagogy: Education for Social Justice Within and Beyond Global Neo-Liberalism*. Eds. Sheila Macrine, Peter McLaren, and Dave Hill, pp. 191-192)

Teachers need to be political actors in their educational settings by being clear about the

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students in ways that go considerably beyond many current inauthentic and tokenistic attempts.

The question is not Occupy vs. Policy proposals: single-issue politics is broken – Only by activating debate’s political capacity through a fluid, holistic critique can we break down casino capitalism

Giroux 11 [Henry A. Giroux, Global TV Network Chair in English and Cultural Studies at McMaster University, 26 October 2011, “Occupy Wall Street's Battle Against American-Style Authoritarianism”]

The Occupy Wall Street movement is raising new questions about an emerging form of authoritarianism

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shared values, spaces and public spheres that enable an emergent radical democracy.

Debate is a uniquely key place for resistance against bad education – Critical thinking and debate skills in America are at an all-time low, we need to change. Controversial issues like ours are necessary for real world action

Yanklowitz 8/15

Yanklowitz, Rabbi Shmuly. (is the Executive Director of the [Valley Beit Midrash](http://www.valleybeitmidrash.org/), the Founder & President of [Uri L'Tzedek](http://www.utzedek.org/), the Founder and CEO of [The Shamayim V'Aretz Institute](http://www.shamayimvaretz.org/)and the author of "[Jewish Ethics & Social Justice: A Guide for the 21st Century](http://www.amazon.com/Jewish-Ethics-Social-Justice-Yanklowitz/dp/1935104144/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1364562726&sr=8-1&keywords=yanklowitz)." Newsweek named [Rav Shmuly one of the top 50 rabbis in America](http://www.thedailybeast.com/galleries/2013/03/21/america-s-top-50-rabbis-for-2013-photos.html#d52f2223-c31d-45dd-bf27-e1accbd78923).")"A Society with Poor Critical Thinking Skills: The Case for 'Argument' in Education." The Huffington Post. TheHuffingtonPost.com, 15 Aug. 2013. Web. 30 Sept. 2013. <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rabbi-shmuly-yanklowitz/a-society-with-poor-criti\_b\_3754401.html>.

Researchers have shown that most students today are weak in critical thinking skills. They

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must invest in the education of our youth. They are our future!