

Some of the key questions we are exploring in this opening unit on the human condition:

1. Why do we have public schools?
2. Why is treating each other with dignity and respect both so difficult and so critical to effective public schooling?
3. What kind of power do teachers have in public schools?
4. Where does curriculum come from?
5. What is the difference between the hidden and the overt curriculum?

From "Practices For Talking About Things That Matter,"

3. Listen actively, in order to understanding the views of others.

From your FDN 2400 syllabus, Reading and processing notes requirement:

As you read, you might consider the following: *What is the author saying to you?* Who is the author? To whom was the author speaking and why? What do the author's assumptions seem to be? What sorts of evidence and methods are used? *What specific passages support your interpretation of the author's argument?* Where do you find yourself agreeing? Disagreeing? Where does the author echo your own discourses? Do you feel inclined to challenge the author? How? What are your own purposes in reading this?

Consider the text's functions within the course, its connections to other readings, its connection to your own experiences and interest, and its location within the larger literature on public schooling and social justice. *How do your own values and experiences shape your response to the text?*

Freedom

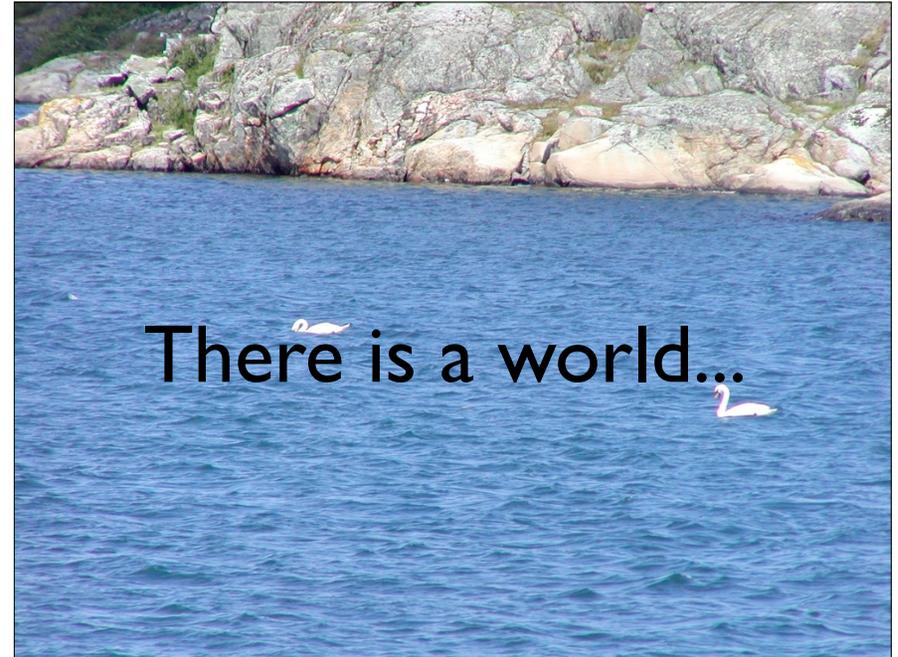




How do I know?

What should I do?

How can I get it done?



There is a world...

where you are free...

to do whatever you want...

Will you go?



or why not?



Some ways to think about freedom...

- Negative freedom
- Positive freedom

Can freedom and equality coexist?

“I should be free to do whatever I want.”

“But you shouldn’t be
free to hurt me!”

freedom v. equality

Balancing freedom and
equality: Justice

Negative freedom:
freedom from restraint
or constraint.

Negative freedom

refers to a lack of social, political, and physical restraints.

Positive Freedom

This sense of the word “freedom” refers to the potencies inherent in something, to what one *can* do.

Positive freedom refers to the active process of seeking out some goal to be achieved and then going for it.

Positive Freedom:

The highest and least common mode of freedom...

Freedom to invent, create, and change the world.

a freedom that seeks to balance itself with
equality

to achieve

Justice, agency, creativity

For Thursday and the Maxine Greene reading:
Look at the reading and processing notes instructions
and follow them. In addition, consider the following as
you read. What is the common good? What is the
public space? How can we define schooling in terms of
a common good and public space? Why does this
matter?