

The Propagation of Weapons of Mass Instruction Outside the Hegemonic World of Education

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INTRODUCTION

It is beyond doubt or the need for further investigation or evidence that the means to deploy networked, blended and e-learning in much less than 45 minutes to affect large populations, well beyond the traditional battlefield of face to face learning, exist on a large scale, and mainly outside the traditional institutional domains of higher and other forms of education.

This is exemplified both by major multinational corporations (e.g. BP) and major publishing houses (e.g. Pearsons – Financial Times).

As networked, blended and e-learning take development from the pre-industrial to the post industrial (with only a brief interlude in the industrial, mass production era), great ambitions and projects exist, with unexpected outcomes.

Within this the potential of these forms of learning to promote a form of new colonialism in a post-nation state global society are immense, as are the possibilities and likelihoods of new forms of resistance.

This poster session is an opportunity to discuss these issues and some hopefully mind expanding and controversial propositions:

- What happens in the institutionalise education sector is relatively irrelevant to the ongoing evolution of networked, blended and e-learning in comparison with what is taking place in the corporate and commercial worlds.
- Bold initiatives and spectacular failures characterise this world, which will in the longer term shape the development of this field.
- This is releasing new forms of post-national colonialism and new forms of resistance to this.
- Education has the challenge, but not necessarily the vision or the means, to move beyond the mode of correspondence to economic, social and political trends.