

Reshaping Indigenous Education Through Culturally Responsive Teaching: A Review of the Literature

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Abstract

Much has been said, reported, and theorised about Indigenous education and the factors impacting on Indigenous students' educational outcomes. However, it can be said without question, that the capacity for Indigenous students to reach their fullest academic potentials and to experience educational success can be largely dependent on the type of schooling provided to them and the type of skills, knowledge and understandings they also gain from school. The research literature from the United States, Canada and New Zealand which this paper draws from, explain the particular importance of culturally responsive schooling for engaging Indigenous youth in the school learning process. Culturally responsive learning environments for Indigenous students are identified as important for enhancing Indigenous student school learning, engagement and academic success, because they effectively connect school learning with the student's identity, culture and home-life. This paper is a discussion into the importance of culturally appropriate classroom practices, to improve Indigenous student outcomes.

