The Politics of Compulsive Education: Racism and learner-citizenship
By Karl Kitching

Education sites have become key to the marketised and securitised governance of populations. Locating Ireland within modern Atlantic-European histories, The Politics of Compulsive Education details the significance of mass education(s) to the ongoing racialisation of national sovereignty. Chapters explore diverse themes such as student deportation, austerity, religion and the politics of community ‘integration’, the depoliticisation of third level education via international student and ‘quality’ teacher regimes, the racialised distribution of learner ‘ability’, and school-based bullying and harassment.

Contents

1. Compulsive education: The troubling uses of race, migration and learner-citizenship

2. Ambivalent Atlantic encounters: Assembling ‘the Irish’ as an educable race in the 19th century

3. Purity and diversity as love for the nation: Being heard and contained in educational ‘evolution’

4. Mediated blood transfusions and inoculations: desirable/bogus immigrants, and the warmth of Irish educational community

5. ‘Where is she from if she’s not making her Communion?’ Unpacking ‘community’, integration and segregation in contemporary primary schooling

6. How teachers’ bodies are mobilised to feel about diversity: PISA shock, policy motivation and finite inclusion

7. Everyday attributions of ability and value: Blurring designations of good/bad, immigrant/working class Others

8. The ‘ebb and flow’ of racist micro-aggressions: un/doing everyday uses of and relations between learner bodies

9. Anti-racisms, acts of learner-citizenship and answerability

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Karl Kitching is a lecturer in the School of Education, University College Cork. He is currently completing an Irish Research Council-funded study titled ‘Making Communion: Disappearing and Emerging Forms of Childhood in Ireland’ with Dr Yafa Shanneik. Karl is a member of Anti-Deportation Cork, which is a multi-ethnic, grassroots collective that seeks to end the dispersal, detention and deportation of asylum seekers.