SOCIOCULTURAL ISSUES IN MOTIVATION

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BACKGROUND

• Vygotsky-Successive waves of influence
• 1960’s Psychology
  -language & thought
• 1970’s/80’s Development Psychology
  -zpd
• 1980’s/90’s Learning & Thinking
  -social nature of learning and thinking
  -distributed cognition
  -metacognition/reciprocal teaching of reading comprehension

1980’s-2007 Motivation


- Strong emphasis on the individual nature of motivation which continues to the present time
- Recognition of social influences but growing interest in social nature of motivation
- This is especially so for researchers working in naturalistic classrooms

- Susan Nolen    USA
- Julie Turner    USA
- Helen Patrick    USA
- Nancy Perry    Canada
- Sanna Jarvela    Finland
- Simone Volet    Australia
- Judy MacCallum    Australia
- Kimberley Pressick-Kilborn    Australia
Walker and colleagues

- Kimberley Pressick-Kilborn
- Erica Sainsbury
- Sarah Hyde
- Lyn Arnold
- Richard Walker

- Interest
- Motivation
- Self-regulation
- Identity
- Conceptual Change
- Transfer


Draw on sociocultural ideas from:
Vygotsky
Valsiner
Goodnow
Rogoff
McCaslin
Lave & Wenger
Some Key Ideas

- enculturation into cultural practices
- zone of proximal development
- transformative internalisation and externalisation
- interpersonal relations and intersubjectivity
canalisation and self-canalisation
- inclusive separation
- planes of analysis (community, interpersonal, personal)
- teacher regulation and peer co-regulation
- communities of practice/learners

A Sociocultural Approach:

- Considers motivation to be social in nature
- Attempts to explain how motivation emerges from the social world and is manifested in collaborative and individual action
- Recognises that the social world and the world of the individual are interdependent
- Requires new conceptualisations of existing motivational constructs (since current conceptualisations are individualistic in nature)
World View

- A contextualist world view is not adequate
- A social epistemology which recognises both the social and the individual
- Theoretical primacy accorded to social processes
- Allows for personal agency
- Avoids social determinism
- Avoids sociocultural reductionism

Current Issues

- Social origins versus context
- Extent to which the social world, or context, are tightly bound to each other
- Internalisation and externalisation of motivation
- Where motivation "resides"-within practices, in the interaction between person and context, within persons?