



Seminar

School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry & School of Education

Reggio Emilia inspired philosophical teacher education: the family (tree)

In this presentation, I give a flavour of how, against the odds, Reggio-Emilia-inspired pedagogical documentation can work in reconceptualizing environmental education, reconfiguring child subjectivity and provoking an ontological shift from *autopoiesis* to *sympoiesis* in teacher education. Working posthuman(e)ly and transdisciplinarily across three foundation phase teacher education courses at a university in South Africa, I situate my teaching within current environmental precarities. I show how a team of teacher educators *stirred up trouble* in and outside our university classroom and provoked our students to “make kin” with children, each other, other animals, and the more-than-human, but also *to stay with the trouble*, that is, to learn to be truly present in colonized spaces.

Keywords: posthuman child; Reggio Emilia; *autopoiesis*; *sympoiesis*; environmental education; teacher education

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Karin Murris is Professor of Pedagogy and Philosophy at the School of Education, University of Cape Town, and Atkins Visiting Professor in Philosophy at the University of Queensland. She is a teacher educator, philosopher of education and grounded in philosophy as an academic discipline, her main research interests are in intra-active pedagogies such as Philosophy with Children and Reggio Emilia, school ethics and post-qualitative research methods. She is Principal Investigator of the *Decolonising Early Childhood Discourses: Critical Posthumanism in Higher Education* research project funded by the South African National Research Foundation (NRF): www.decolonizingchildhood.org

Her books include: *The Posthuman Child: Educational Transformation through Philosophy with Picturebooks* (2016), and (with Joanna Haynes) *Literacies, Literature and Learning: Reading Classrooms Differently* (2018), *Picturebooks, Pedagogy and Philosophy* (2012). She is co-editor of the *Routledge International Handbook of Philosophy for Children* (2017).

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Seminar detail

Date: 10 August 2018

Time: 1:30pm – 2:45pm

Room: TBA (after Sem 2 timetabling completed)