Social practices, pedagogy and language use: studies in socialisation

Edited by

Peter Mickan, Ioana Petrescu and Judith Timoney

The essays in this book have been written for teachers and education students. They are investigations into teaching, learning and language use in varied settings. The essays are based on work carried out in Applied Linguistics at the University of Adelaide.

The purpose of this book is to examine learning as a social phenomenon. The essays explore aspects of socialisation in different settings. Researchers and teachers wrestle with complex theories of learning, which at times seem unrelated to classroom experiences and unhelpful for planning instruction.

Theories draw upon different and sometimes contradictory academic traditions—psychological, social and linguistic—which often appear irrelevant for teachers' work. South Australia has a strong record of teachers' action research, of theorising practice, and of teacher inservice programs built on reflective practices and classroom inquiry. Teachers' and students' workplace investigations are practical means of making connections between theory and practice. The studies in this book are intended as examples of the exploration of theory in practice with a particular interest in language and learning.

The background to preparation for this book is the arrival in South Australia in the past two years of a large number of immigrants, many of whom are refugees.

Edited by

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