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Level 3 91736

NCEA Education for Sustainability (EFS) 2018

AS 91736: Analyse how different world-views, and the values and practices associated with them impact upon sustainability (4 credits)

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence	Overall level of attainment for 91736
Analyse how different world-views, and the values and practices associated with them, impact on sustainability.	Analyse in depth how different world-views, and the values and practices associated with them, impact on sustainability.	Critically analyse how different world-views, and the values and practices associated with them, impact on sustainability.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyses the values associated with different world-views and how these values are expressed in various practices. Uses evidence to explain the relationship between these values and practices, and aspects of sustainability. Draws conclusions about the present and future consequences of the different world-views for sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draws informed conclusions, based on evidence and examples, about the similarities and differences of the world-views in terms of their impact on aspects of sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draws insightful conclusions about the complexities associated with different world-views (and their related values and practices) and how these complexities impact on aspects of sustainability. The complexities may include shifts over time, conflicting values within world-views, or different views about sustainability. 	

WORLD VIEWS

**Level 3, Education for Sustainability, 2018
91736**

Neoliberalism vs Marxism

Executive summary

The world views of both Neoliberalism and Marxism are outlined. Ideas, values and practises are listed. The ideologies are analysed in terms of how the values of each are associated with aspects of sustainability being environmental, social and economic. Both present and future issues for both systems are provided, along with changing values, complexities that give informed conclusions on the two world views.

Section 1: explanation of two different world views

What is Neoliberalism

1. a modified form of liberalism tending to favour free-market capitalism.
2. "social and political issues surrounding neo-liberalism"

The definition and the use of the terms of 'neoliberalism' has changed over time, but this world view originally is the 20th century 'revival' of the 19th century ideas around 'laissez-faire economic liberalism', which was known as 'classical liberalism'; which was an economic system where transactions between private parties were free from government intervention. This was for things such as regulation, privileges, tariffs and subsidies. The ideas for this included policies from 'economic liberalization' such as privatization, austerity, deregulation, free trade and reductions in government spending so that the role of the private sector in the economy and society would be increased. These policies are market based and inspired constitute a paradigm shift that was away from the post-war Keynesian consensus that had lasted from 1945-1980. In the 1980's the term of 'neoliberalism' reappeared and the usage of this word had (Smith, 2018)

Neoliberalism values and practices

The view of Neoliberalism has changed and developed in many ways since the original emergence of this idea. But is still a very emotionally based world view that follows very specific practices along with sustaining their values.

1. The ideology and policies of neoliberalism is hugely based around emphasizing the value of having a **free market**. As this view is associated with laissez-faire economics. Neoliberalism can be characterized in terms of the belief in having a sustained economic growth to achieve human progress. The confidence that is in the idea of having **free**

markets is seen as the most efficient allocation of resources. Due to this there is minimal state intervention in both economic and social affairs due to the commitment to the freedom of trade and capital. This means that when it comes to individual sales, affairs and the economy the government/ state refrain from interfering.

2. In a neoliberalism state having **individual freedom** is a major factor. It is seen that to have government interference would only make things worse. This includes everything from poverty to diseases and discrimination. It is believed that those things have been made again, worse, due to unfettered capitalism. It all began in the 19th century with the 'workers compensation' schemes, public funding of schools and hospitals along with regulations on working hours. But by the 1970s, economic stagnation and an increase in public dept prompted some economists to advocate a return to 'classical liberalism', which is another term that has been used to describe present day neoliberalism. This prompted a revival of what we know today as neoliberalism.

3. Another value of neoliberalism is having a **self-reclaiming market**. This is really important and is a presumption along all neoliberalism. Having efficiently allocated resources is the most important purpose of an economic system. The most efficient way to achieve this is going through market mechanism, that is according to what Munk describes as "neoliberal economic theories". Due to this having any economic intervention from the government agencies is always undesirable, this is because intervention can "undermine the finely tuned logic of the marketplace" and in turn reduce economic (Cleaver, 1997).

What is Marxism

1. A theory or system of social organization in which all property is owned by the community and each person contributes and receives according to their ability and needs.

Communism is known as a philosophical, social, political, economic ideology and movement where the ultimate goal is the establishment of the communist society, this is a socio economic order that is structured upon the common ownership of the means of production and also the absence of social classes, money and the state. The ideology of communism has a variety of schools which do broadly include Marxism and anarchism along with the political ideologies grouped around them both. They all share the same analysis that the current order of society stems from the economic, capitalism; and in this system there are only two major social classes. Society does conflict between these two classes; it is seen that this will be resolved through social revolution. The two classes are the working class and the capitalist class. The revolution that is so desirable is to put the working class in power and then establish social ownership of means of production, according to the analysis is the primary element in the transformation of the society towards (Richard Dagger, 2017)

Marxism values and practices

Marxism is a view that has been around since the 19th century but was originally thought of in the 18th century by Karl Marx. the practices and values have very much remained the same since the start and have been upheld by followers.

1. Having a **stateless society** is something that has been the main value and practice in communism. In achieving this, the lower class will be free from poverty and to give the poor a "fighting change". But putting it into practice means that the government will have

to control all means of production, this is so that no one will be able to outdo anyone else by making anymore money. Though this is difficult to actually put into practice this is what the 'father of communism' Karl Marx envisioned and is what is something that communism is striving for.

2. The core of Marxism is to annihilate **economic equality**. This is done through eliminating private property, so that all becomes equal and there is no more equality within the society. Karl Marx expressed, famously, how he believed that equality and suffering was only a result from capitalism. Communism wants to eliminate this and go against all that capitalism is. In doing this they aim to institute their society with no private property, no economic classes and (Dhar, 2014).

Section 2: analysis in relation the aspects of sustainability

Neoliberalism values and practices and its relationship with aspects of sustainability

The values and practices of Neoliberalism theoretically should be sustainable, but putting them into practice, realistically there are not sustainable in ways of economic, environmental, social and cultural.

1. **Relying on market mechanism alone for governing and allocating economic resources is proven to be problematic.** Which is something that is very big for Neoliberalism to be successful in the ways it originally should be. In doing this it is thought that the poor will rise out of poverty and there will be equality economically but this isn't how it's working. Because of this "there is a call for a new approach" so that the focus is no "pro-growth for poor towards pro-poor growth" in doing this equity issues are being addressed and also gives the poor greater power to influence the policy. But this is not how it realistically conducted. Through research it has shown that the neoliberal economic agenda for commodification, deregulation, privatisation and cuts in government expenditure could in some ways undermine the attainment of sustainable development by actually increasing poverty and inequality.

2. Due to the **neoliberal policies and values** in Latin American for example, that are in the wake of international debt crisis, with impacts on human, forests, rivers, oceans and the atmosphere have been observed and critiqued. **Neoliberal policies are largely based around economical gain and sustainability rather than environmental.** This is obvious when governments look past the firms and multinational corporations when they say that they will "safeguard nature's treasures". In turn the governments are focused on sustaining their business and economy and not looking at the impacts those business are having on the environment. These are serious threats to the environment and only lead to a more unsustainable (Arhin, 2013)

3. Socially, again in Latin American there is a lack of sustainability. **Many are resisting Neoliberalism and the policies.** This is largely linked to the lack of acknowledgement to sustaining the environment, and people are wanting private land-not open borders. There are efforts to reduce wilderness and natural resources that are being fought by "eco-warriors" along with efforts to make communal lands private and to impose the corporate property rights to their cultural heritage and environmental knowledge, this is being majorly fought by peasants and indigenous people. Part of Neoliberal ideology was that by having free-markets and open

borders the poor would eventually rise up and that there would no longer be poverty-this is proven to be wrong.

Marxism values and practices and its relationship with aspects of sustainability

Marxism has proven to have many aspects of sustainability in Cuba for example. The values and practices have been put to practice in a way that has resulted in environmental, social, economic and cultural sustainability in their society.

1. The Marxist system acknowledges the importance looking after the environment.

There are many ways that this is achieved. In 1998 in Cuba passed their National Forestry act. In 1959 86% of the Cuban island was deforested under colonial powers and the dictator Fulgencio Bautista, after this every aspect of forestry was regulated. Today 26.7% of the island is covered in forest with increasing numbers. By putting in regulations they have in turn developed their environment in a sustainable way. With not being able to import things like pesticides and other agricultural products they have had to make their farming all organic only by necessity, again with this they need to have food rations which has pushed Cubans to practice urban agriculture which reduces the carbon footprint of each meal. But this is unlike the Soviet Union as it has been said to be "The Soviet Union has been the worst reeking charnel house of this whole awful twentieth century". Which became more of a dictation than a harmonious way of living. Another way that Cuba have sustained both their economy and their environment is by stimulating their economy by using green initiatives this in turn helps feed their environment and (Preobrazhensky, n.d.)

2. Not having competition within the society stems to economic sustainability. Karl Marx wanted equality, everywhere. Reducing work hours and keeping the same pay for example. In Cuba again, after not being able to trade anymore which was their biggest economic factor meant that they had to find other ways to feed their economy. As stated above they turned to urban agriculture and organic ways of keeping a sustainable economy. Their economy now relies on this urban agriculture to support them and keep them independent which is unlike other countries that rely on trades and other countries for their economy to remain sustainable. Without having competition they have created a cohesive way of living, no one has more than the other and they all work towards the same.

Section 3: comparison of each of the two worldviews

Neoliberalism present issues

1. Having competition as a defining characteristic has meant that there has been a redefining in citizens as consumers. Where democratic choices are being best exercised by the act of buying and selling. This is a process that best rewards merit and at the same time punishes inefficiency. But it does maintain "the market" so that it delivers the benefits that could not otherwise be achieved by (Monbiot, 2016). These characteristics have produced "economic insecurity and inequality" which has in turn lead to the loss of the political values and ideas of us and the precipitated our current populist backlash as (Rodrik, 2017).

Neoliberalism future issues

1. The future of Neoliberalism is said to “not be as bright as its past” as it **lacks serious ideas for changing public policy**. This does have contradicting views though. Some say that Neoliberalism does in fact and will influence the language of the Democratic party platforms and the candidates in the years to come. But the issue is that the ideas will not really do anything to change the impression, this liberalism does not offer much for “average Americans”. For example Neoliberalism is a lot about **economic growth**, a reason that this can be an issue is because in the traditional Neoliberalism their focus switched more to splitting up the “economic pie” and less about increasing it. Many varieties of ‘special-interest groups’ were able to preserve and enhance their own position, regardless of the effects it had on others. Industries would enlist the government to protect them from foreign competition. Labor unions had obtained laws and regulations that restricted the conditions of employment. Along with this social welfare organisations did more for themselves than their clients. This is a direction that is seen Neoliberalism to go in. The leaders will tolerate these issues as it will become a dependent and things they rely on to ‘ (LENKOWSKY, 1985)’.

Marxist present issues

1. Due to Marxist **practices and values** there have been many reports of **starvation resulting in death**. In North Korea between five hundred thousand and one million people each year are dying because of starvation. But much of this is not heard of, due to fact that the realities of Marxism is “embarrassing” at best. There is famine sweeping through the country of North Korea with crop failures and much more. The point of Marxism Was originally to create equality but has proven the opposite in North (Australian, 1998)
2. **In a Marxist society there is meant to be only one class**. A leader is there to rise and lead the society towards Marxism so in a controlled and efficient way then when this is achieved they are to step down as a leader and join the class as everyone else is. In reality this is not how it turns out and the leader remains in their position and in turn the society becomes less of a Marxist society and more of a dictatorship. This is what has happened in North Korea, with intention of following the Marxist manifesto but instead the leader Kim Jong-un has never stepped down and has remained a ‘dictator’.

Marxist future issues

1. **With the rise of Globalisation and the interconnection across the globe this rises issues for the future of Marxism**. Marxism relies on being cut off from the world essentially. Everything is internal, take Cuba for example they went from being a very ‘exposed’ country with a lot of exports and relied heavily on their external exports and imports to support their economy and society, but with the introduction of Marxism they have cut that out and found all internal ways to feed their economy, society and environment in a sustainable way. Globalisation is the opposite with the encouragement of external imports and exports to sustain their economy. With Neoliberalism also on the rise, the idea of open borders and free markets goes against everything that Marxism is. This is an issue as this view is a more dominant one compared to (Trattner, 2014)

2. The negative view of Marxism is another issue for Marxism that will heavily affect the future of it. The news portrays the negative side of Marxism; the dictators and the failures. But not the positives like in Cuba; this is something that is unheard of. Because of this the view of Marxism has been created in a way that is against it. North Korea is plastered across the news showing people the horrible effects of Marxism, the control and everything else that is looked negatively upon. Because of this people are against the idea of it. Along with this the ideas of Karl Marx are 'old' and 'out of date'; the world is moving in a direction that is the opposite to Marxism so naturally this is not the favoured option for leaders and people. Expanding economies is a big thing for many countries, having shorter work hours paying the same wages and evenly dispersing the money is not an appealing ideology for many as they just want to expand their own economic growth to the best they (Trattner, 2014).

Neoliberalism and Marxism similar and different impacts Environmental social and economic effects

1. Both Neoliberalism and Marxism have significant impacts socially. Neoliberalism is based around everyone being free and having their own things that they have made themselves. This is appealing to many as they are rewarded for their successes. They are able to be individuals, but in the Marxist system that isn't the same. Work hours and wages are to be the same and the money is to spread equally through the society. There is meant to be only one class, with no leader ideally, everyone is to be equal. Health care, fair trade etc is to be kept the same within the Neoliberal society, there is a lack of equality, with multiple classes among the societies.

2. The environmental impacts are quite different between the two views. Cuba has shown that in a Marxist society the environment is highly respected and looked after. The laws and measures that have been put in place to protect the environment has provided their society with a sustainable environment. They have seen how not taking care of the environment and not respecting and how it results in an unsustainable way as happened in 1959 when 86% of the island was deforested it has taken years to get their island back to a more sustainable environment now having 26.7% and growing numbers of the island covered in forestry. In a Neoliberal society the environment is not as much of a priority, economic growth is a much bigger priority than environmental growth. The focus is on having free markets, open borders, everyone for their own. This means that there are growths in industries that rely on the environment for importing and exporting purposes such as forestry, industry like this ruins the environment instead of preserving it. The United States of America is on their way to becoming a Neoliberal society, 60% of people there live in places where the air is so polluted it can make them (Trattner, 2014)

Section 4: Complexities explored

Neoliberalism changing values over time

The values of Neoliberalism has changed over time in many ways. Our modern day Neoliberalism is based off of the 20th century Laissez-Faire economic liberalism. This idea of liberalism did not last long and so was thought to be forgotten; but has been on a rise as of the 21st century. Many of the ideas have been altered and this present day Neoliberalism is only based off of the 20th century ideas.

Laissez-Faire is a economic system where transactions between private parties are free from all government intervention. This includes regulations, privileges, tariffs and subsidies. The actual term 'Laissez-Faire' is French and translates to "let (it/them) do", in this context genuinely means (what is laissez-faire, n.d.)

This swept across Europe, the United States and many other countries, but there was many critiques that in turn made this idea less appealing to leaders and countries. 'The End of Laissez-faire (1926)' is one of the most famous of critiques. John Maynard Keynes argued that the doctrines of this idea of Laissez-faire are to some extent very dependent on "improper deductive reasoning", Keynes questions whether a market solution or state intervention is a better option, and how this must be determined on a case by (barnett, 2007)

Another way that Neoliberalism has changed over time is the transition between 'Liberalism' to 'Neoliberalism'. In this transition from a political philosophy which held the most important value as being liberty. The belief of this classical liberalism was that maximizing individual liberty was priority and restricting the use of forced coercion was the needed to achieve this. Another difference with classical liberalism encompasses all the social, economic and political aspects that defines the basis and role of government. Government should reduce intervention and adhere to the rule of law. Economically it is believed that a free market system would maximize individual freedom in the economic sphere, socially there is a want for freedom. Having mutual toleration, open discussions and the freedom to act with no one else being harmed. This classical idea of liberalism is very broad and covers many aspects, with a specific focus on economic alike, present day Neoliberalism which definitely has more economic based ideas which comes from Laissez-faire.

Today Neoliberalism focus on markets, deregulation, ending protectionism and at the same time freeing up the markets. Whereas the classical liberalism is as said, a political philosophy, this version is based round the ideas of neoclassical economics, by setting ideas for free markets and how to achieve this, this is advocated by classical liberalism, and can be achieved and maintained over time. This being the present day/ modern way of (Fung, 2016).

Marxism changing values over time

Marxism is complex and specific in the ways that Karl Marx wanted it to be carried out as. Our present day Marxism follows to an extent the ideas that Marx wanted. In saying there are also dramatically different countries considered as 'marxist'.

Marx wanted 'Marxism' to be an international way of living. Lenin was one of the first to make some dramatic changes in Marxism while still self-identifying as a Marxist. Lenin wanted a revolution in Russia but Russia was not industrialised and this is the first step- according to Marx, towards Marxism. Lenin decided that Russia was a "weak link" in the international system and was the best place for the revolution to start. This way of 'Marxism' was a dramatic change in order to be relevant and fit Russia.

Then there was Mao who changed Marxism again. China was less industrialised then Russia, this for Moe was less of an issue as he did not want any revolution of the industrialized proletariat of China due to the fact there was no industrialized proletariat of China. Moe in turn used the power of peasantry of the "vast interior of China" against any small industrial organisation that already existed at the time.

By the twentieth century communist movements were identified exclusively with national independence movements, there was a nationalistic character and no sense of internationalism. North Korea has become a 'dictatorship' there is clear negative effects from this interpretation of Marxism. Today's Marxism societies have all taken their own interpretation of the original ideas from Marx himself. None fully relating or following how it should be in (The Evolution of Marxism, 2010)

Neoliberalism and Marxism conflicting values

Neoliberalism is based a lot off of freedom and being an economic system. Whereas Marxism is based off of isolating the country from others and relying solely off of internal affairs. Along with this there are many other conflicting values between the two views.

1. Neoliberalism believes that free markets are key to a thriving economy. By taking away government intervention and advocating for freedom for all it is believed that the poor will inevitably rise up and there will be less inequality as there will be free markets with more opportunities. In turn there will be eradication of poverty. This idea of wanting to eradicate poverty is no unlike Marxism but the way it is gone about is what's conflicting.

2. Marxism encourages closed borders whereas Neoliberalism encourages open borders. Having a closed society and rely on the internal economy and environment essentially, to sustain their society. Cuba found alternative ways to grow their environment and economy in a closed way, this restricts the freedom people get within the society. Wanting equality across the society in a controlled way. Whereas Neoliberalism wants freedom across the globe having open borders.

Neoliberalism complexities and conclusions

The complexities of neoliberalism are mainly in the sense that in theory the practices and values are really good. They should theoretically work out really well and bring sustainable equality across of spectrums. Socially, economically and environmentally the sustainable factors should be spread equality for all. With taking out government intervention which is seen as a factor in why things are the way they now and why there is so much poverty and inequality. Along with this Neoliberalism is very much economically based and thinks mostly about the economic factors of equality and much less on the other factors such as social and environmental. In theory there should be clear social equality because everyone will economically be equal but the environment does get compromised. The use and demand for more factories businesses and organisations that use non reusable and unsustainable materials along with emitting fumes and other environmentally harmful things creates more of a unsustainable environment. In practice though, there isn't equality. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer. The poverty rates rise and big organisations do also. The environment suffers while this all goes on. Though this is an appealing way of living in theory practically it either isn't being carried out the right way or it just really doesn't work.

The neoliberal system is a very independent system. It relies on markets and encourages open borders and freedom. Very similar to globalisation and capitalism our world is slowly moving in the direction of neoliberalism. This system has changed many a times and been attempted many a times, but always remaining around the value of economic gain. This is something that will most likely stay in stone as Neoliberalism moves forward.

Marxism complexities and conclusions

Marxism is a system stuck in ways of someone from decades ago, this implicates the system as it needs to be open and willing to adapt as much as possible. Keeping the same values but altering some other views in ways that become more realistic and appealing. Cutting off of a country from all others, restricting everyone. Again in theory Marxism should work in a harmonious way. Equality across everyone, no classes, lesser work hours everything that appeals to most people. In practice the classes systems are worse than ever, dictatorship can take over, poverty is as bad as it can be; and no escape. That is one example which can be seen in North Korea but in Cuba there is harmony, equality. When the leader was needed to step down they did and avoided going into a dictatorship, this isn't always the case. But they have also adapted to the times, restricting and lower imports and exports from other countries to as little as possible and relying on their environment and what they have best as possible. On the other hand they still don't accept other systems such as Neoliberalism, they just weaken their restriction.

Marxism is a system up to interpretation. People have taken but they want from the original ways of Karl Marx and have found their own way of pursuing and carrying out Marxism. It has worked for some and not for others, the results have been thriving and sustainable, and horribly failing. The ever changing interpretations shows this changes with the times and has gained much speculation, proving both the good and bad that comes with a Marxist system. But without accepting other systems they remain isolated and unappealing in many ways.

Overall conclusions

If the Marxist system could widen their values and be open to adjusting and adapting to other systems the level of sustainability would flourish. By having both Marxist and Neoliberal values there would be a equal and more realistic society. The values of both have their positives and negatives as all systems will realistically. Being able to put theory into practise in a realistic way is not always easy and sometimes the expectations are too high. This is shown very vividly through both the Marxist and Neoliberal systems.

One big issue is being sustainable in all aspects not just economic. There needs to be balance and right now there isn't in either systems. Both have positives and negatives when it comes to sustainability. The environment though as a whole does not benefit and falls last on the priorities in many cases. This is something in the future and the present needs to change. Taking more notice of the Marxist views on environment and adding views alike these to Neoliberalism then following them, would make for a more sustainable system overall.

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Excellence Exemplar 2018

Subject	Education for Sustainability	Standard	91736	Total score	07
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
1	E7	The candidate has provided enough evidence for E7 in this question. Insightful conclusions have been drawn about the complexities associated with different world-views and how these complexities impact on aspects of sustainability with regard to changing values over time.			