

Assistant Professor **Aydin Bal**,  
School of Education, University of  
Wisconsin-Madison

"In the United States, there is a strong tradition of scholarships focusing on education equity and social justice. There are numerous leading educational scholars such as Anyon, Apple, Banks, Erickson, Grant, Ladson-Billings and Lee have produced influential work that can inform a transformative multicultural education movement.

However, I will select the following books by two renowned researchers, Linda Darling-Hammond and Barbara Rogoff:

1) Darling-Hammond's most recent book *The flat world and education: How America's commitment to equity will determine our future* (2010). In this book, Darling-Hammond discusses the long-lasting educational equity issues (e.g. opportunity gap and re-segregation of US schools) from an ample cultural-historical, socio-political and global perspective. Then, she offers a complex and comprehensive yet concrete proposal to develop inclusive and democratic educational systems that facilitate rich, meaningful and transformative learning opportunities for global citizens of our time.

The second book is Rogoff's seminal work of *The cultural nature of human development*. From a cross-cultural perspective, this influential book provides a strong scientific argument on the role of culture in human development and learning. It has important theoretical and practical implications for multicultural education movement."

Professor **Helena Coharik Chamlian**, Faculty of Education, University of São Paulo

"Among the books more often cited in the research on education and multiculturalism in Brazil, the following

## RESEARCHERS' GUIDE TO THE BEST BOOKS ON MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

What is your favourite book about multicultural education?



stand out: *Multiculturalismo: diferenças culturais e práticas pedagógicas* by Antonio Flávio Moreira and Vera Maria Candau (Vozes, 2008); *O jogo das diferenças: o multiculturalismo e seus contextos* by Petronilha Beatriz Gonçalves da Silva and Luiz Alberto Gonçalves (3rd ed. Belo Horizonte: Autêntica, 2001) and *Educação Multicultural: teoria e prática para professores e gestores em Educação* by Ana Canen and Ângela Rocha dos Santos (3rd ed. Belo Horizonte: Autêntica, 2004). Besides different definitions of multiculturalism and the meaning of the differences, in those books one can find matters concerning the school daily life, as well as specific matters related to the ethnic and racial themes.

Associate Professor **Rahil Ismail**, National Institute of Education, Singapore

"There are several, but I will take the liberty of naming two: 1) Beverly Tatum: *Why are the black kids sitting in the cafeteria* (Basic Books, 2003).

2) Benjamin Zephaniah: *Talking Turkeys* (Puffin, 1995). This is a collection of poems with an interesting selection for promoting multicultural understanding among the young.

Professor **Hi-Won Yoon**, Seoul National University  
"The *Analects of Confucius* (論語); it gave to me many ideas for good policy-directed multicultural education in Korea."

Professor **Zheng Xinrong**, Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University  
*Multicultural Education: Issues and Perspectives, 5th Edition* by James A. Banks, Cherry A. McGee Banks (2003)

Professor **Amy Stambach**, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
"My favourite book about multicultural education is *Song of Lawino, Song of Ocol* by Okot p'Bitek a Ugandan author. I like this book because it helps my students think beyond their own lives and their own experiences."

Associate Professor **Christian Horst**, Institute of Education, University of Aarhus  
"There is no such book, because the educational research within multicultural,

bilingual and anti-racist education is so rich. However, if I should point to works that stand out, it must be a reference to the works of J. Banks, of which the regularly reviewed and updated book *Handbook of Research on Multicultural Education* (2003) is the most comprehensive and up-to-date collection of major research and scholarships related to multicultural education. A new version is under way."

Professor Emeritus **Heidi Safia Mirza**, Institute of Education, University of London

"My favourite book is *I Answer with my life: Lifehistories of women teachers working for social change* by Kathleen Casey (Routledge, 1993). The book is about the testimonies of often forgotten ordinary women teachers who teach at the chalk face, achieving, in their quiet determined way, progressive changes within the system. Drawing on the oral histories of three sets of women, catholic nuns, secular Jewish women and African American women, Casey shows us how the social role of a teacher is fundamental for achieving social justice in diverse and difficult classrooms in inner cities in the USA. Her methodology is scholarly using the work of the Popular Memory Group and Bakhtin's theories of language to excavate the hidden narratives.

The teachers answer the call to educate the next generation with their lives. For them, multicultural education is about transformation through daily practice. It is a powerful, emotional and thought provoking book that argues educational policy and theory too often obscures the less dominant voices." ■