

Introductory Note to Themed Section 2 (Volume 30, 2026) of *Education as Change*

Theme: Epistemic Justice and Social Transformation: The Neoliberal University Project

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In this compendium of peer-reviewed articles, established and new academics weigh up the consequences of the neoliberal university project. Without exception, the articles point to the growing and legitimate concern that university managers have instrumentalised the academy to serve the interests of global capitalism and the big industrial and financial conglomerates that have turned learning, teaching, and researching into commodities. In the critiques offered by this transnational group of scholars, colonial archives, indigenous knowledges, and contemporary critiques have been mined to present world views that challenge the ongoing acquiescence by university managements as they succumb to the relentless pressures of profit making and narrow commercial interests. The articles confront epistemic domination, and they propose emancipatory alternatives rooted in local histories, community struggles, and critical pedagogical traditions.

The Guest Editors, professors of education Doniwen Pietersen from the University of South Africa and Amasa Ndofirepi from Sol Plaatje University, have put together a focused collection of articles to interrogate how racism, coloniality, patriarchy, and neoliberal globalisation intersect to shape knowledge production and circulation. The guest editors will write a separate Editorial once all the approved articles have been published.



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