Ecological Education for Community towards Zero Waste and Sustainable Cities

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1. The Gap in way of Life under Centralism and Local Autonomy

Centralism :

- Aimed to meet the requirements of major industrial and bureaucratic organizations (mass production and consumption within mental conformity and passivity)
- Adaptation to centralized political system, losing sensitivity to local peculiarities and particularities (relinquish responsibility to locality, weaken cooperation bet. individuals, leading to significant social and ecological damage

- People lose intimate relationship w/ surroundings
 - · No interest to use local resources wisely
 - · Locality: spot for good imported and garbage generated spot for stopping in social sense

 (no community activity, no frequent contact bet. people and accordingly getting into a world of their own)
- Consequences: disastrous (w/o strong and vital civil society, civil void of stalled decision making)

2. Ecological Education (New Concept Education)

- ❖ Effect of education: both by its content and by the way it is delivered
- ❖ Formal education:
 - Fulfill the needs of centralized society (reinforcing centralized logic, restricting chance to draw on experiences of daily life)
- ❖ Bureaucratized education :
 - Shapes human experiences in accordance w/ political, economical and cultural priorities of the state (no particularity of regions, no singularity of individual)
 - One sided relationship bet. school teacher and student

- ❖ Bring People's education closer to their needs: to transfer resources and decision making from the capital to the region and local community
- ***** Ecological education :
 - Must have close tie with local community life
 - Programs fitted to local circumstances
 - Stimulate a demand for localized knowledge
 - Role of student and teacher not hierarchical
 - Both teacher and student gain understanding of the local and historical context of all their knowledge
 - Regain the capacity to distinguish what is important and what is not

3. Reviving communities

- ❖ Communities successively destabilized by political centralization, industrialization and urbanization
- ❖ Maurice Stein(1964): "Eclipse of community" exaggerating the merits of local autonomy and non formal relationship
 - Many attempts to make the community life idyllic
- Emphasized in ecological movement
- Romantics : fear to lose the community forever due to modernization
 - Resistances: fear to return to pseudo community form of social organization
- Community ideal sometimes stubborn to anything, and exclusive to the others from outside

- Local government:
- · mediating bet. the state and citizens
- · can foster the development of civil society
- Supporters of ecological movement : often stress to live in ancestral home, and sometime confine their territory where true commitment is easy to be feasible
- However, bio- regional level necessary : wider social relationship linked to the social and natural environment
- Requires more efficient use of domestic and indigenous resources and greater responsibility towards the natural and social environment

4. Obstacles in community Education

- Passivity among large portions of inhabitants : lack of unwillingness to join the project demanding time and energy of theirs
- Expect the politicians to take care of, make solutions for their lives (hangover of centralization system)

5. Strength in Community Education

- Population is tied to a specific place (regional loyalty is widespread)
- Regions are rich in ecological and cultural traditions and traditional values
- Dense network of small communities enable people close and easy contact to ecological environment
- High level of homogeneity among people : no significant social segregation
- Strong ties among community people in critical situation (empty central treasury, crisis of welfare state)

6. Globalization

- Optimist : various culture in harmony, nations rich
- Pessimist: inequality and conflict in terms of economy, politics, ideology and culture
- Multinational industry: depletion of country and regions including exploitation of natural resources and labor market, let the government lose the control of its natural resource and employment of labor
- Exclusion of foreign matter : from individuals, to entire locality
 - · May trigger the close tie between communities and adult education in community becomes important

7. Two ways to cope with influence of globalization

1. Centralism:

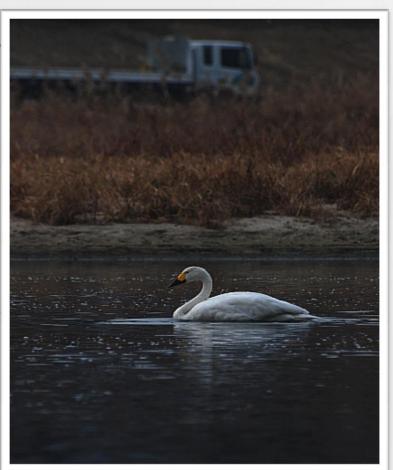
- Social assistance to people in need
- Being more dependent on bureaucratic (welfariat) machine
- Traditional assistance and redistribution not helpful to escape from the situation
- Requires people to relinquish all social links

2. Local Autonomy:

- Economic relation just one aspect of exchange bet. people (social, cultural, ecological as well)
- Create new, wider, and more satisfying form of solidarity
- Market of both wealth/consumption and employment/ no exclusion
- Homogeneous society, less economic margin among people due to tight social networks of informal nature, such as family

8. Regional NGOs for Environmental Concern in Daejeon, Korea





- ❖ Ecological Exploration (Wild Flower)
 - To visit W.P and observe the seasonal wild flowers, ecological disturbing plant, invasive species plant, and to educate the survival tactic of plant and insect
 - Open to Daejean Citizen





***** Kumgang River Monitoring

- To investigate and discuss the ecological disturbance in the river (Water and Sediment) and to educate the citizens how to cope with





2. Coalition of Green Daejeon and Chungnam

- Gapcheon Tributary Festival
- To display the photos of urban forest, pilgrimage to Gapcheon tributary, educate the importance of tributary in urban development





- University Student Activity
 - Labor Support for Agricultural Village
 - Exhibition for Community Design (Community Ecology, Culture, Environment, History Etc.)
 - · Eco-School Operation, Scare Crow Festival, Village turning into Museum





- ❖ Village Energy Coordinator Education
 - Solar Energy, Waste to Energy (Biomass, Livestock Feces, Solid Waste)
- Segregation at the Source of solid waste, Storage, Utilization
- Energy Conservation in Village





3. Daejeon Council for Sustainable Development



4. Daejeon Coalition for Consumers



Thank you

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