

# CRITICAL ADULT EDUCATION

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# CRITICAL AE

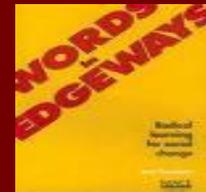
- Is to see AE in relation to different groups of people in relation to the power structure
- AE to engage critically with the system...economy, social system: social stratification, gender, social class, status, 'race'/ethnic, caste, religious, sexual politics.

# POWER

- AE for the system
- AE to ameliorate the system
- AE to transform the system
- AE 'outside' the system
- AE 'in and against' the system

# PARADIGMS

- Anarchist Approach
- Marxist approach. Independent Working Class Ed.
- Reformist - Radical Workers' education
- Feminist Approach
- Popular Education



# PARADIGMS

- Critical Theory
- Frankfurt School
- Ideology Critique



Marcuse



Habermas

- Marcuse — relevant for current critique of dominant adult ed. Discourse: AE for production/consumption
- Habermas — communicative action; 1. technical/instrumental knowledge 2. Practical / interpretative knowledge 3. emancipatory knowledge — AE for subjective and social knowledge
- Gramsci - hegemony

# CULTURAL STUDIES

- Influence of Gramsci
- Cultural Studies and AE
- Raymond Williams
- Birmingham Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies - Stuart Hall



Stuart Hall

# CULTURAL STUDIES

“..we are beginning, I am afraid, to see encyclopedia articles dating the birth of Cultural Studies from this or that book in the late fifties. Don't believe a word of it. That shift of perspective about the teaching of arts and literature and their relation to history and to contemporary society began in *Adult Education*, it didn't happen anywhere else. It was when it was taken across by people with that experience to the Universities that it was suddenly recognised as a subject. It is in these and other similar ways that the contribution of the process itself to social change itself, and specifically to learning, has happened.”



Raymond Williams, *Adult Education and Social Change: Lectures and Reminiscences in Honour of Tony McLean*, WEA Southern District, 1983: 9-24.

# CRITICAL APPROACHES

- Freirean approaches
- Critical literacy: reading the word and the world
- Praxis: learning thru' critical distancing from the everyday world.
- Conscientizacao
- Social justice oriented social movements
- Indigenous knowledge
- Southern subaltern knowledge