World Education Research Association's International Research Network School Segregation and Education Marketization

Webinar: Thursday February 9, 2023

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Education Marketization, School Segregation, and Complex Inequalities:

Evidence from Australia and Canada

*** Recording available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/SsY0zVYFJa4 ***

Suggested citation (APA 7th ed)

Yoon, E. (2023). Education Marketization, School Segregation, and Complex Inequalities:

Evidence from Australia and Canada. [Webinar]. International Research Network on School Segregation and Education Marketization, World Education Research Association.

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Dr. Ee-Seul Yoon is an Associate Professor of Educational Administration, Leadership, and Policy at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. Her research examines how the marketization and privatization of education impact equity, diversity, decolonization, and inclusion in Canadian education systems. A 2021 recipient of the Terry G. Falconer Memorial Rh Institute Foundation Emerging Researcher Award, Yoon is conducting cutting-edge critical space research to understand schooling inequities facing diverse learners who experience discrimination in settler-colonial society in the era of neoliberalism. To see her recent publications, visit her Google Scholar Profile.

Abstract

Education Marketization, School Segregation, and Complex Inequalities: Evidence from Australia and Canada

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School marketization and competition have been promoted as mechanisms for improving equity of student academic outcomes. Debate remains, however, whether marketisation policies (including school choice) ameliorate or exacerbate educational inequalities. We contribute to this debate by examining complex inequalities in two prosperous countries that have similar social, cultural and economic contexts but have embraced educational marketization to different degrees. Drawing on data from the *Programme for International Student Assessment*, we show that Australian schooling has more 'choice' and competition, is more socially segregated, has larger school stratification of human and material resources, and has greater inequalities of educational outcomes than Canadian schooling. Based on these findings, we suggest that educational marketization exacerbates educational inequalities by increasing school social segregation and stratification of resources.