Out with the boxes: Creating spaces for many (and varied) citizens

Lisa Hunter
University of Queensland

Students, in their middle years of schooling, are grappling with who they are and how they are situated within their world. Unfortunately, many of the controls enforced by the institution of school still work against students freedom to explore their individual subjectivities. This paper reports from a doctoral study that focuses on the different subjectivities demonstrated within the individual student as well as within one class. Through the work of Pierre Bourdieu and a number of gender scholars (Grosz, Davis, Connell, Gatens) these subjectivities and the spaces that the discourses of the class would allow are explored. Through a focus on structures and student agency it is argued that certain particular citizens are still not possible, even though such reflexivity may be a step closer towards the possibility of new citizenships.