

Top 5 Internal Factors



Labelling

Labelling impacts on differences in social class experience as often working class students are subjected to negative labelling based upon their appearance, their attitudes, their language or where they live (ALL EXTERNAL FACTORS). This leads to them being vilified in the education system and developing self-fulfilling prophecies that ultimately end up with them being cooled down to education



The Halo Effect

Middle class students are often subjected to a different form of labelling, outlined by Rosenthal and Jacobsen. Middle class students, because of their cultural capital and habitus have similar tastes, attributes and language to the education system. This leads teachers to have higher expectations of them and as a result they develop positive self-fulfilling prophecies which benefit them



Anti and Pro-School Subcultures

As a result of being labelled negatively, working class students are more likely to seek out status with their peers as part of an anti-school subculture. Middle class students on the other hand are more likely to be encouraged by the positive attention received and form pro-school subcultures where they internalise the school's ethos and values and are respected by teachers



Nike Identities and Hyper-heterosexuality

As a result of not achieving status from the school, students from working class backgrounds are more likely to achieve status through wearing branded clothing or through adopting ultra feminine personas. Archer suggested that this brings them into further conflict with the school and leads to exclusion and sanctions based upon their appearance. Middle class students are more likely to conform and be accepted



Setting and Streaming

Allegedly based upon academic ability, but often based upon superficial characteristics such as language, appearance or conflict with teachers, working class students are placed in lower sets and streams than their middle class peers. In these sets and streams they are given low status knowledge, entered for lower ability exam and this hampers their future prospects. Middle class students are given the full range of knowledge and challenged to achieve

Differences in social class experience in education