Conceptions of Resilience: Compliance or Transformation?

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Abstract

This paper offers a philosophical inquiry into conceptions of resilience — identifying it first as a set of individual traits or characteristics and, secondly, as a process existing within relationships. Both approaches unwittingly may reinforce existing inequities and marginalization as they are used to prepare students for the world. Alternatively, suggestions for arriving at a conception of resilience that potentially is meaningful, empowering, and transforming are presented.