

The Hidden Curriculum

Sociology

What is taught by the organisation of school rather than by its syllabus.

Learned from how school is run, not from what it says.

What is taught

Punctuality and response to a bell.

Deference to hierarchy and grading.

Competition between individuals.

Acceptance of extrinsic reward.

Which knowledge is worth having.

Whose accent counts as correct.

How to see it

Watch who is called on, and how often.

Compare rules across sets and tracks.

Note what earns a sanction, and from whom.

Read the display boards and prizes.

Ask what is absent from the syllabus.

Illich went further, arguing the hidden lesson is dependence on institutions itself. That deschooling case is a minority position.