

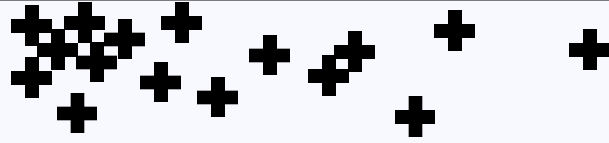
CHI



Compassionate Pedagogies: What's Love Got to Do with It? A Loving Pedagogy in Higher Education

Today we will:

- + Consider a "loving pedagogy" in Higher Education
- + Reflect on barriers and biases in love-based teaching
- + Consider traditionalities, gender and cultural implications
- + Explore practical ways to embed love in HE teaching



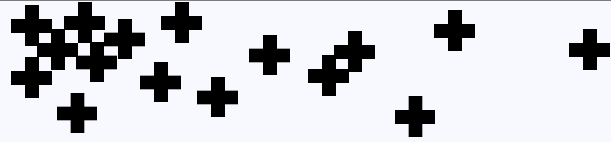
Why a passion for a loving pedagogy?



Early Years Educator



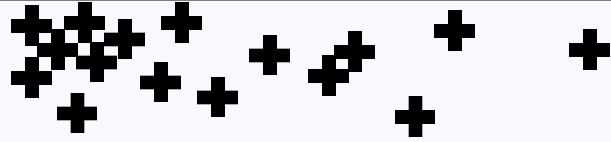
Tertiary Educator



Compassionate Pedagogies – What's Love Got to Do with It?

A Loving Pedagogy in Higher Education – What does this mean to you?





Defining a Loving Pedagogy



"Love is seeing, hearing, and connecting from the heart" (Loreman, 2011)



"Professional love is emotional availability and trust" (Page, 2018):



Krishnamurti said it is learning through care and empathy (Thapan, 2022)



Pedagogy in teaching is about trust, acceptance, equality (Maatta & Uusiautti, 2011)

Where is Love in Policy?

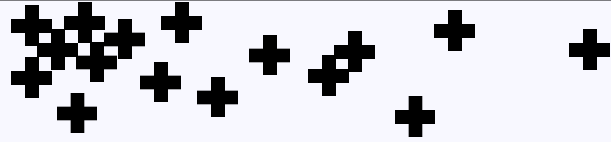
- Scottish Frameworks - No explicit mention
“loved, nurture, kindness, compassion, respected”
- HE frameworks = no mention
- Is it political? Is it gendered? Or it is just uncomfortable?

Current findings

A study carried out by Scottish Government (2018), looked at National Indicators to see how Scotland is performing in varying areas.

Child Wellbeing and happiness in Scotland between 2015 and 2018, results showed that **15% of children aged 4-12 were below 'normal' happiness levels.**

Adult loneliness was 21.3%



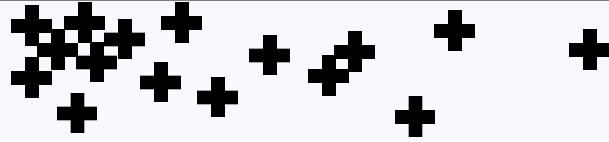
Exploring Love in Education

Professional
Identity?

Academic
Peformity?

Emotional
Attachment?

Gendered
Norms?



Love Languages

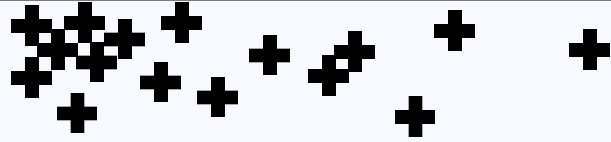
Words of
Affirmation

Quality
Time

Act of
service

Receiving
Gifts

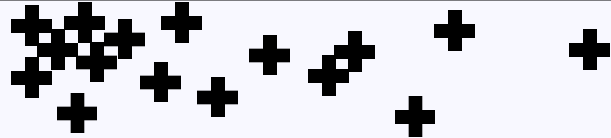
Physical
Touch



Educational norms or anxieties



-
- Tough vs. Soft Love
-
- Touch and "Moral Panic"
-
- Gendered Understandings



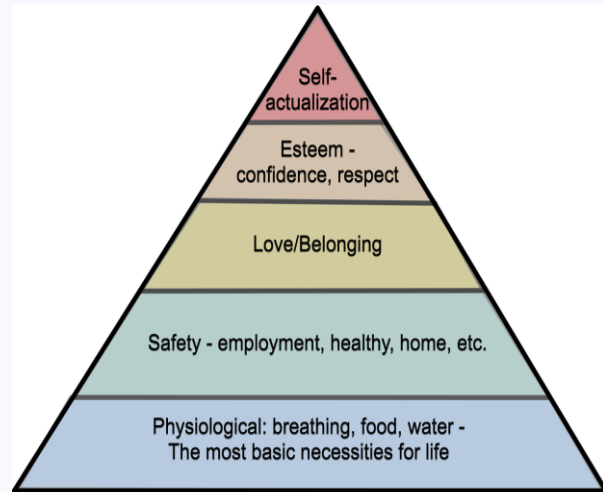
Gender, Power, and Love

"Education is masculinist: emotionally distanced, socially detached." (Flores & Alfaro, 2022)

- Feminist care values often seen as "soft"

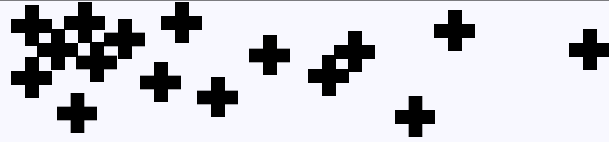
- HE traditionally values rationality and metrics

- Is love a feminist issue?



UHI Students and Lecturers on Loving Pedagogy

- Students & lecturers as co-constructors
- Trust, care, authenticity
- Belonging



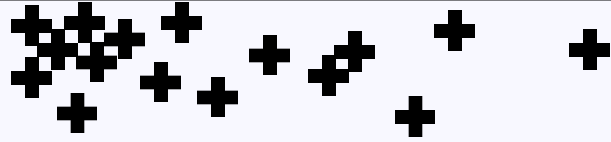
Where Does Love Live in My Practice?



- A time you showed care in teaching



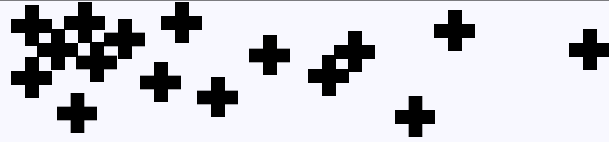
- A moment of authentic connection



Embedding Love into HE Practice



- Use student names – see them as human beings
- Listen deeply and without judgment
- Be vulnerable and authentic
- Share emotional labour
- Make time for connection



Final thoughts

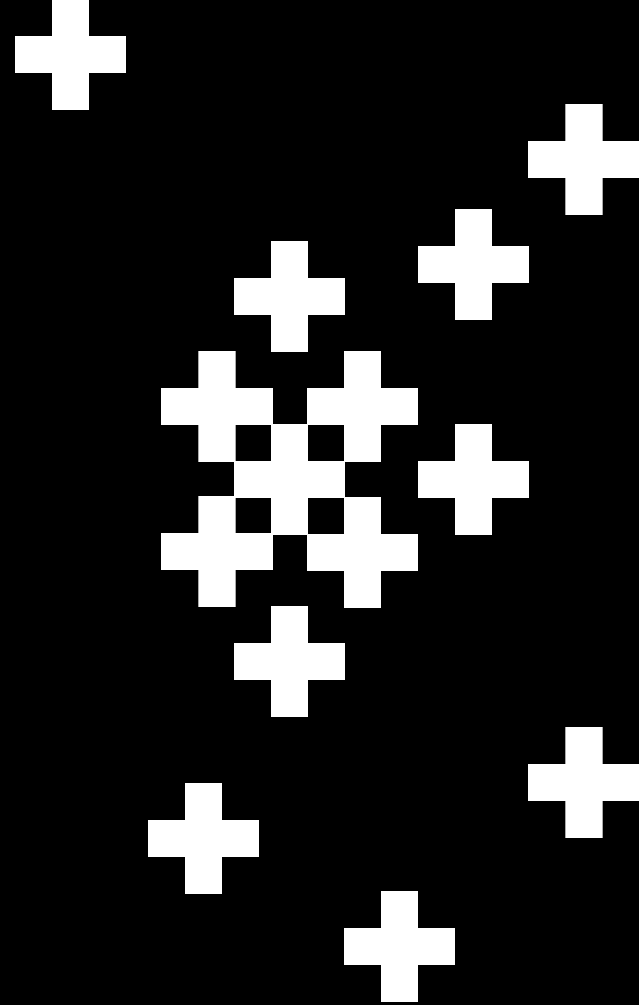


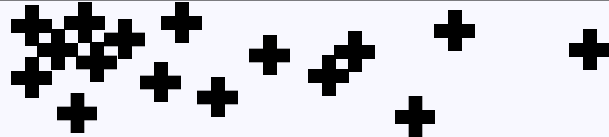
"Education must be a place of tenderness, otherwise it is not human." – Paulo Freire



How has your view of "love in education" changed?

Thank You





References

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