

The Educational Transfer of the Japanese Model of Schooling and Its Implications

Borrowing educational/policy models has been a part of the comparative education discourse for a long time. However, globalization has intensified and changed the speed and scope of the “borrowing” of national models.

Today, national league tables are often referred to as strong indicators of educational success. In school education rankings, such as the IEA’s TIMSS, and the OECD’s PISA, Singapore and countries/cities/regions of East Asia have typically dominated the top positions, Japan being one of them. Because of this, various countries such as the countries of the Middle East, China, and Southeast Asia, have sent envoys to Singapore and Japan.

This presentation will introduce some developments which are happening in relation to the transfer of the Japanese model of education (Nihongata), and the implications the process has for our understanding of education across social and cultural borders.