

Children and Youth

How should education respond to inequalities?

Oct 05, 2023 (Thu) 09:00-11:30

Organizers: Gwangju Metropolitan Office of Education,
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Background

Poverty and inequalities are structural issues that hamper a sustainable development of cities. They also have to be dealt more seriously in that they could be passed down on to the next generation.

As being in the middle of physical, intellectual, mental, ethical, and social development, all children and the adolescent have to be equally guaranteed for their educational opportunities to allow them to fully develop their personality, talent, and physical and mental capabilities.

Each of children and the adolescent demonstrating their capabilities to the fullest through the process is what the Korean Constitution and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) have desired for. That principle also could be employed as a means to make sure poverty and inequalities not to be passed down on to generations.

In reality, however, inequality exists in education sector, too. What makes matters worse is the growing trends of overemphasizing one's academic background and depending on excessive private education. Educational inequalities negatively affect local marginalization and donut city issues, which becomes a major cause of undermining a sustainable development of nations and cities.



Objective

With regards to educational inequalities, we would like to provide a venue for discussion among experts and 3 entities(students-parents-teachers) in education. In so doing, we would attempt to seek for ways to share the awareness on how important and serious the issues are and to diagnose the issues with the view of the directly involved in the field. Then, we explore ways to address the issues in future-oriented perspective in order to guarantee the right to education.

Main Agenda

1. Significance of educational inequalities
2. The reality of educational inequalities at school
3. Future-oriented ways to address educational inequalities
4. Inequalities in education in the view of international human rights criteria on children

