

# La complementarità di democrazia ed educazione

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## *The Complementarity of Democracy and Education*

**Abstract:** For some authors of modernity, from Kant to Dewey, the question of public education of the future citizen was an obligatory issue. The nexus of democracy and education was a salient thesis for these authors. In an essay a few years ago, Axel Honneth reaffirmed the importance of the issue, but considered that political philosophy is silent on it today. In this article, I re-examine the question of the complementarity of democracy and education, discuss Honneth's arguments about the current deficit in political philosophy, and show the relevance of the contribution that can be drawn from John Rawls' comprehensive work in this regard. In particular, the text reconstructs the role of fundamental educational institutions – the family and the school – in the construction of a reasonably just society. Like other public institutions, the state school is subject to the constraint of neutrality; but it also has a fundamental role in the education of civic virtues. The family is not only an obstacle to the implementation of equality of opportunity; it is also an important moral resource for the acceptance of the principle of difference.

**Keywords:** Complementarity of democracy and education, State school and the principle of neutrality, Family and the principle of difference, John Rawls, Axel Honneth.

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