



THE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION RIGHTS AND TRANSFORMATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG INVITES YOU TO A SEMINAR:

Green Machines? Destabilizing Discourse in Technology Education for Sustainable Development

Presented by Benjamin Knutsson

Date 25 April 2018

Venue Research Village Cottage 8 (APB Campus)

Time 12:00 – 13:00

RSVP Katlego Tshiloane, katlegot@uj.ac.za or 011 559 1148

Abstract The presentation takes issue with the undue faith in technological solutions to our environmental problems. Drawing on political ecology, more specifically theories of machine fetishism and ecologically unequal exchange, the presentation interrogates the techno-optimism that permeates sustainable development discourse, as well as much of the literature in technology education (TE) and education for sustainable development (ESD). Ultimately, the presentation contends that a more critical debate is needed in these educational fields, and that the technology curriculum should be broadened to include alternative conceptualizations of what technology 'is'. Bringing in such inconvenient voices could spur a healthy discussion amongst students and teachers about the prospects for a 'green' modernity.



Benjamin Knutsson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pedagogical, Curricular and Professional Studies at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Broadly concerned with issues of power and inequality, his research focuses mainly on education, sustainable development and international aid. He is a research associate of the Centre for Education Rights and Transformation, University of Johannesburg, where he is engaged in a study on the biopolitics of education for sustainable development.

Link to full-text:

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