

Initiation paths to the research of future graduates in Educational Sciences: Participation experiences in the project “Global Citizenship Education”

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Abstract

This paper presents the participation experiences carried out by three undergraduate students in Educational Sciences, during a Scientific Research Initiation Program, in the project "Global Citizenship Education - Contributions to the area of Citizenship and Development (CD)", developed at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of the University of Porto (FPCEUP), in partnership with OEI and CFJR. The students collaborated in different activities (conducting interviews and their transcription; teacher training workshops; visualization and analysis of Citizenship classes at #EstudoEmCasa; reading bibliography on Development Education and Global Citizenship; participation in meetings with the research team members), contributing to the project's main goal: analyze and understand the implementation processes of the new CD area in public schools in the municipality of Gondomar. At the end, each student wrote a reflexive report about their experiences, considering the learning opportunities and their impact in their training processes as Educational Sciences students. Education is understood as a permanent process, throughout life, in which the various social and professional contexts are central to the construction of educational processes which brings originality to each life (Dominicé, 1988). Thus, it enables and enhances the construction of each human being's individuality, contributing as well to the process of thinking and acting in/about the world/society (Canário, 2006). The participation in the project raised questions and reflections about different issues like educational processes in school; issues associated with social justice and the CD area; scientific research and its role in today's societies and the importance of critical thinking, which made this participation a meaningful and transformative learning process (Josso, 1988). On the presentation these and other effects of the participation in this project will be presented with more detail.