

# Confronting the contradictions: A case study of early childhood teacher development in neo-liberal times <sup>[1]</sup>

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## AVAILABILITY

Full article PDF available online <sup>[2]</sup>

## Abstract

As neoliberal policies that emphasize governing the modern state through market-based principles expand across the globe, they are altering the training of early childhood teacher candidates. This creates a range of challenges for those teacher educators who are critical of this reform process. This article presents an instrumental case study that examined the impact of neoliberal education reforms on the development of a sample of early education teacher candidates. Analyzing this case of teacher development offers teacher educators the opportunity to consider the practical and critical steps they might take to better prepare their candidates for these reforms. Doing so will help teacher candidates develop early learning experiences for their children that teach them to become engaged democratic citizens rather than compliant consumers within the neoliberal state.

**Region:** United States <sup>[3]</sup>

**Tags:** social policy <sup>[4]</sup>

childcare workforce <sup>[5]</sup>

programs <sup>[6]</sup>

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