

# Cultivating Democratic Climates in Primary School Classrooms in Colombia:

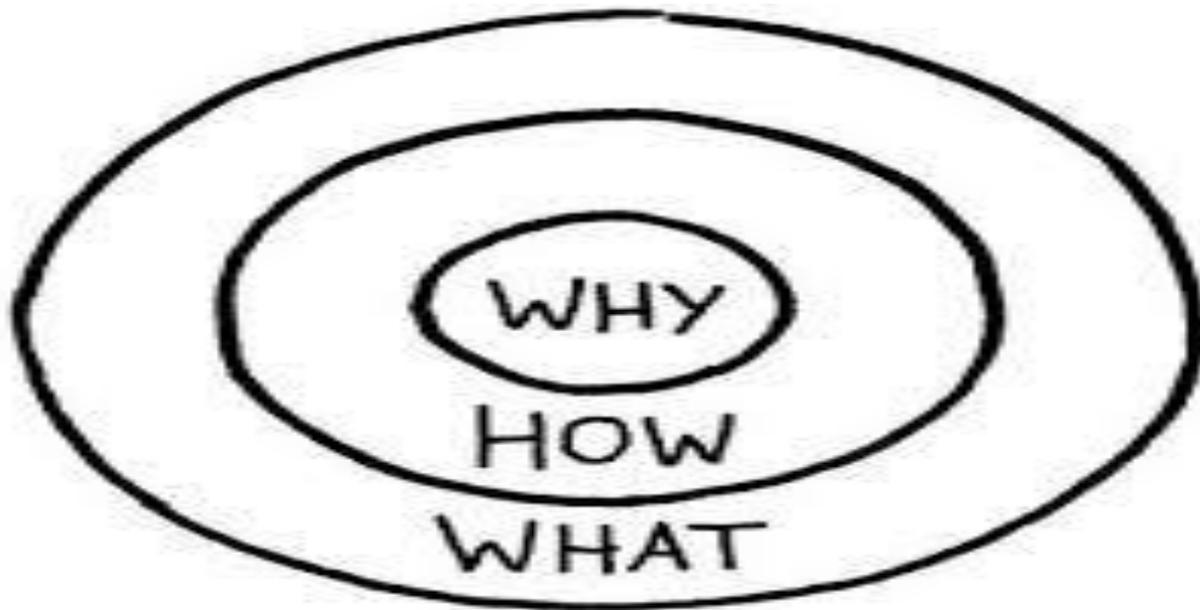
## Pastors, Radical Democrats, Semi-Democrats and Tyrants

**GLOBAL CRC MEETING... 13 YEARS LATER!! 😊**

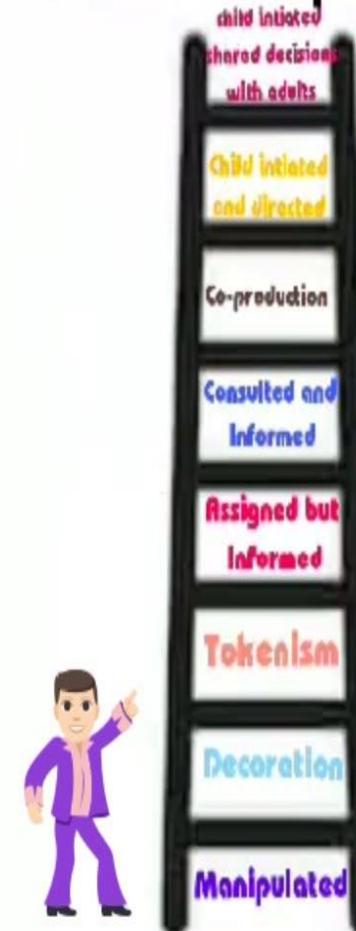
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# Democratic classroom climates



## Ladder of child participation



# Pastoral practices



## **VOICE (observed practice)**

- Talk what's necessary... one shouldn't talk so much. Why don't you keep your mouth shut. Learn to be quiet... do you love god?

## **EQUALITY OF RESPECT & RECOGNITION / CRITICAL THINKING (interview)**

- Nooo. God made man, a man with a woman and a woman with a man. If we are believers, to think of a man with a man and a woman with a woman... no, no, no... it shouldn't be... it can't be. As long as one can form man with woman, woman with man and put that idea and put those principles that god left in the ten commandments, for me that is the best. The other, the other, I don't agree with.

# Tyrannical practices



## EQUALITY OF RESPECT (reported practice)

- ... for me promoting respect... one promotes it because one is constantly talking to them (students) about respect... what should one do, respecting the other's opinion, respecting how the other child is, even if he is of color... the way he is, his way of behaving, the way he writes,... One does it by setting the example...

# Radical democrat practices

## EQUALITY OF POWER (observed practice)

- My love, I don't control your bladder.

## EQUALITY OF POWER / CRITICAL THINKING (interview, conception)

- I think that has to do with democracy, and I would think that has to do with critical thinking. I think that in a society, that in a school environment... where I have to tell an adult that is there as an authority figure, that I have to ask him for permission to urinate... to expulse what is inside my organism that at that moment is asphyxiating me, when my bladder is full... I find that humiliating. And so, how is it that I want to develop critical thinking but I have to humiliate myself in front of an adult... that I have to ask him/her for permission to go to the loo?





# Towards more democratic classroom climates

1. Supporting teachers and school leaders to adopt democratic practices
2. Creating Safe spaces: social, emotional, physical
3. Promoting genuine forms of **participation**: voice ~~≠~~ decision-making capacity
4. Promoting **critical thinking**: not domesticated by authoritarian power structures
5. Restorative discipline management approaches