

Autonomy of directors and teachers in the current Chinese educational system

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ABSTRACT

This thesis looks at the Chinese educational system and the autonomy that directors and teachers share in the decision making process. It not only examines the educational system as a whole but analyses different levels of the educational system, puts an emphasis on the autonomy of teachers and directors in a school environment, and introduces various school reforms in China since 1976. Consequently, it clarifies the current Chinese educational system with an emphasis on various organizational levels along with the power they have in the decision making process and the options for creating change. Through the study of key documents of the Chinese educational system, political system, and other foreign literature, the legislative processes and documents that are responsible for the Chinese educational policies are made apparent. The thesis compares the official Chinese educational system's documents and processes with the actual situation. Based on this research, the thesis determines the real level of autonomy that directors and teachers possess in the decision making process.