

## Hope in education

When parents choose a school for their children, and when young people choose an education, they hope for a “good life” – at working life filled with passion, social status and economic security. However, the choice implies deselection and absence of choices as well. On the one hand, we see an increasing political pressure towards fast choice of study, progress and labour market engagement. On the other hand, both parents and young people are attracted to “alternative schools” – the free schools based on specific educational ideals of a secular as well as spiritual character, including Freinet and Rudolf Steiner Schools, Christian, Muslim and Jewish Schools.

Which consequences may these changes have for the individual and society? Do we deal with a self-selection that contributes to societal segregation and fragmentation and in worst case to dissolving of democracy? Or with possibilities to reform or revitalize Nordic Schooling according to new societal needs, dreams and hopes?

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