



* Reinforcing the role of the dominant class, primarily through ideology **

** define ideology

Althusser's Ideological State Apparatus

Intro

Refresher on RSA & ISA → function through ideology
↳ function by violence

A argues that education is the most significant kind of ISA - maybe now also communication?

Librarianship as part of the educational ISA. Framework for discussion.

Is it a thing? If so, what do we do about it? How do we perpetuate it?
How could we subvert / undermine it?

Starting point: what is the role of education?

Is it to generate a silent and conforming workforce?

Libraries as deeply implicated in state violence - 'common sense' practice

Academic libs there to ensure employability = supporting capitalist society

Pub libs there to help people get jobs

we can't opt out of that just because we oppose ISAs

Symbolic violence of inaccessible spaces

Actual violence of not allowing certain people in

Worcester lib - public and academic - extremely rare. Public coming in to the academy.

Extent to which libs define what 'information' is supports ideology of the ruling class. Info as a commodity & marketable transaction.

Transactional relationship with our 'customers'

Exercising a 'weak lever' - can't do it alone.

Browne - did a very good job of marketing information ^{HE}

Have to do your job, can't always be complaining about

Training in dominant ideologies starts from v. early age.

Teaching critical thinking?

Librarianship as a profession is siloed - HE / FE / School / health etc

Risk of losing critical librarians? Not sure.

ISAs vary depending on political context of country.

Not 100% brainwashing in UK!

Media lens - critiques mainstream media in UK

Minority of critical thinkers are produced deliberately in order to present illusion of balance?