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**Response Essay to “Another Brick in the Wall pt. 2”**

While watching the video “Another Brick in the Wall pt. 2”, one of Pink Floyd’s masterpieces, it’s impossible not to be impressed by the strong and disturbing images, almost “forcing” the viewers not to turn away and making them think critically about education. Or, at least, that’s how I felt.

In all honesty, I wasn’t so surprised by the fact that the educational system is clearly seen as an oppressive machine, which is trying to eat away the student’s personalities and freedom of thoughts, first by turning them into speechless and sightless puppets, and eventually by completely destroying them, as they fall one by one into the meat grinder. In those years education was much more stricter than now, and the old methods had to change, in order to meet the new way of life and the new needs of people.

Therefore, I think that nowadays the situation in schools is not that dramatic. According to my experience, teachers have become, generally speaking, more indulgent, even though, of course, there are also those ones who can be very strict, or very bad at their job. In my opinion, on the other hand teachers have now turned into “whipping boys”, as they are always the first to be criticised when something isn’t working. This mistrust in teachers is really damaging the school system, since it causes teachers to lose the authority and respect they need to be able to actually teach something to their students.

However, I believe that the educational system is still too “standardised”. For example, in the video we can see one of the teachers humiliating a young boy, Pink, in front of the whole class, by making fun of a short poem he wrote. Even though now thinking outside of box is not considered so dangerous anymore, and usually it’s not harshly punished, teachers and schools are not doing their best in developing critical thinking, or in encouraging the students’ creativity.

In closing, at the end of the video students are violently getting rid of the oppressive school methods, freeing themselves from the despotic teachers. I don’t agree with this way of changing things: I think that destroying the old rules is not enough, and not as important as modifying them, in order to create the basis of a new system.