

I . Introduction

Because of political, socio economic, and the world power order changes, more debates and concerns in adult education have been focused on social justice and peace issues since the early 20th century in the United States. Challenges towards the issues of race, class, gender, ethics, morality, equity, democracy, social justice, and peace, have become the subjects of both themes and goals of many adult educators and theorists' pursuits. This has been helping people who have been marginalized in different respects find hope and faith, and contributing to maintain a peaceful society and world. This paper focuses on introducing the waves on behalf of social justice and peace in American adult education field represented by the influential figures, as well as the influence of race, gender, class issues in modern American adult education.

II . Waves on behalf of social justice and peace in American adult education in the 20th century

In the United States, Jane Addams, Fannia Mary Cohn, Roby Kidd, Nadezhda Krupskaya, Eduard Lindemen, Julius Nyerere, Myles Horton, and Paulo Freire, among others, are adult educators who were committed to the progressive politics of the twentieth century.¹⁾ Booker T. Washington, John Dewey, Jack Mezirow, and among others, are also included. In this paper, Booker T. Washington, Jane Addams, Eduard Lindeman, Paulo Freire, Myles Horton, and John Dewey will be the focus of discussion of such notables above, with particular emphasis on Paulo Freire and Myles Horton.

Booker T. Washington made one of the earliest efforts to help rural black people in the Southern U.S. and advocate for a society of justice and peace. Moreland and Goldenstein²⁾

1) D. Schugurensky, "The legacy of Paulo Freire: A critical Review of his Contributions," *Convergence*, vol. xxx1, no. 1& 2 (1988).

2) W. D. Moreland, and E. H. Goldenstein, *Pioneers in adult education* (Chicago: Nelson Hall Publisher, 1985).