

# Introduction

In today's world, where access to information is easier than ever before, we paradoxically encounter a phenomenon that can be considered consciously cultivated ignorance. The absence of quality knowledge leads to difficulties in distinguishing between facts and fiction. Many people settle for superficial knowledge that allows them to quickly react to current events without deeply considering the essence of the problem. This approach results in knowledge being replaced by impressions and feelings, which are often distorted, subjective, and bend reality according to personal preferences.

This phenomenon has significant impacts on the ability of individuals and society as a whole to adopt adequate perspectives on various problems, phenomena, and situations. Without genuine knowledge, deep understanding, and the ability to think critically, it is impossible to achieve an objective and balanced perception of reality. This approach is complemented by an unwillingness to take a negative stance when necessary. This can lead to the creation of false empathy, an effort to avoid conflicts, opinion polarization, and a black-and-white understanding of the surrounding world.

Trust is then placed in people with strong voices and simple arguments who offer easy solutions. The question remains whether the generous approach and perspective of others allow these individuals to seize power, which they gain due to the inability of part of society to critically evaluate information and adopt an adequate stance. To maintain stability and balance in society, it is therefore desirable to motivate individuals to continuous learning and knowledge acquisition. Only through continuous education can we ensure that individuals will think critically, distinguish between facts and impressions, and contribute to building a well-informed and balanced society.

People often prefer to lie to themselves rather than admit that they do not know something or that they are wrong. This approach leads to the creation of false empathy, which is based on superficial understanding and an effort to avoid conflicts. An interdisciplinary approach in education allows for a comprehensive view of the issue and effective solutions to challenges associated with overcoming ignorance. In this process, the connection between research in pedagogy and other fields of social and natural sciences, currently especially the connection with cognitive science, plays a key role.

Education should therefore be understood as a tool for creating space to maintain stability in society. Without genuine learning and deep understanding, public debate becomes superficial and emotional. This leads to important issues being addressed based on impressions and feelings rather than facts and rational thinking. Societies that are unable to effectively solve problems and innovate gradually lose stability and the chance for further development.

Editors