

Responsibility and Accountability In Adult Education – the unequal siblings

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Learning

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“The qualifications of a teacher rest on his knowledge of the world and his being able to teach about the world, but his authority comes from his accepting responsibility for it.”

(Hannah Arendt, 1958)

accountability and responsibility - definitions

accountability

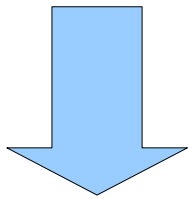
responsibility

state of being accountable for something
responsibility

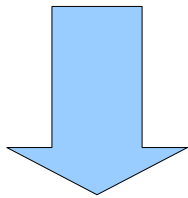
state of being accountable for something

state of being responsible for something

accountability

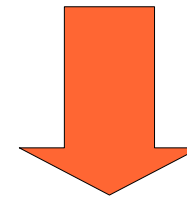


money

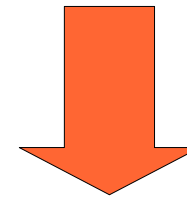


economy

responsibility



talk



communication

educational contexts: accountability

educational accountability:

Linking **educational situations** with the state of **being accountable for something**.

E.g. **fullfill given criteria** concerning quality (usually quantitative), content, results,...

examples

scholarship ~ examination grade (Jacob 2009)

payment of professionals ~ students performance
(ibd.)

risks and side effects

risc of misuse for “symbolic policies” (Arnold, Pätzold 2004)

general vulnerability for corruption (Campbell 1976)

particular empirical findings on “high stakes testing” (Jacob 2009)

educational contexts: responsibility

educational responsibility:

negotiate and assign responsibility as a means of managing teaching and learning

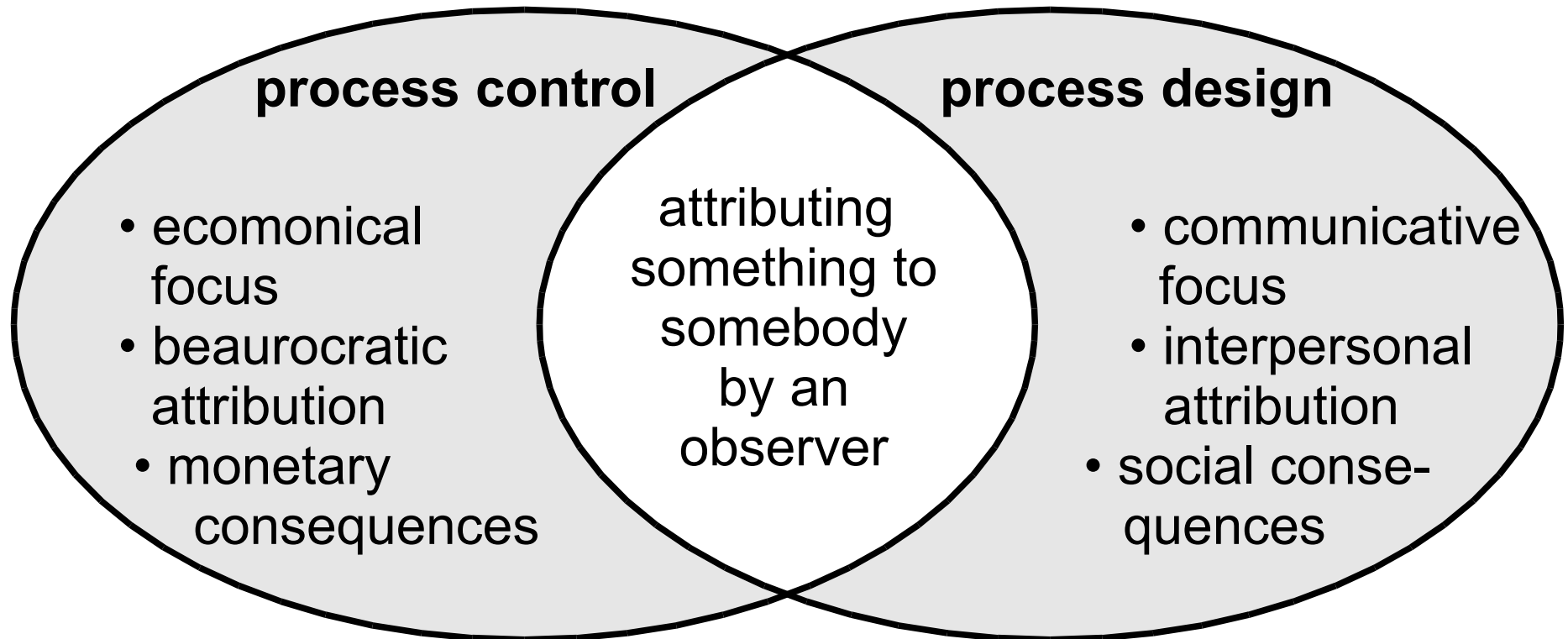
examples

learning contracts (Knowles 1975)

learning counselling (Pätzold 2004)

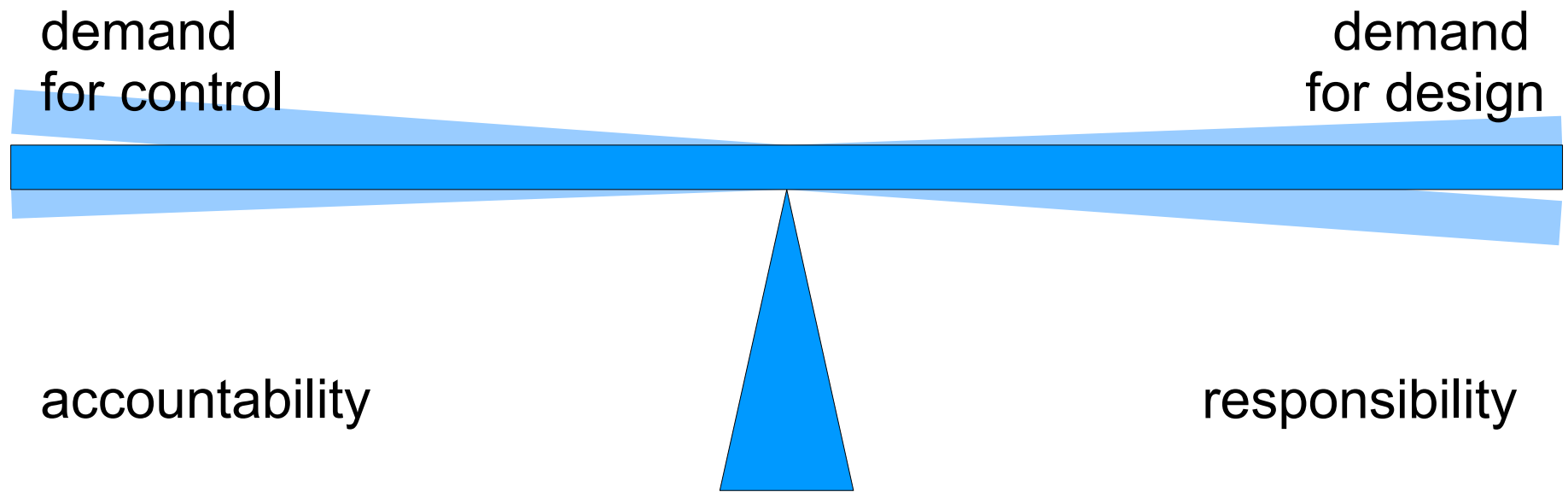
summary and consequences

But... isn't it the same?



consequences for professionals

- Don't mix design and control.
- Avoid rethorics of self-responsibility.
- Use both as categories of reflection.



selected references:

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