

## Autonomous Mapping

Sherri Fisher

[Sfisher7@bcps.org](mailto:Sfisher7@bcps.org)

<https://prezi.com/aq2j3etdq9tg/mapping-classroom-culture-in-finland/>

Baltimore County Public Schools, Baltimore, MD USA

2015 Fulbright Distinguished Teacher to Finland

This presentation looks at ideas of mapping and how it relates to individual notions of autonomy in the context of education. Resulting from a study conducted in the spring semester of 2015 at Aalto, mapping the influences and factors that contributed to the culture of the classroom and education in schools visited in Finland. The products of this research were collaged based physical maps to serve as discussion starters/orientation. The findings largely became a discussion of Autonomy, its roots, value and place in education and culture. On returning to the US and my own classroom, I often found myself very lost, bouncing these ideas around my classroom- I have the wrong map. Recently I have returned to the research practice I employed in Finland, to now look at what autonomy means in my American classroom. This presentation will coincide with and discuss the contents of a culminating exhibition on this arts based research study at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, Maryland.