

DEFINING THE IDEAL TEACHER: PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE IN THE CLASSROOM

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My lecture presents the results of a qualitative study which tried to determine the characteristics of the ideal teacher in Israeli schools today. It was published in *Educational Practice and Theory*, (2010), Vol. 32, No. 2, 57-85.

There are essential traits that affect the teacher's stance in the classroom and the teacher-student relationship. The findings are presented in the form of *Ten Commandments* which specify how to conduct a productive dialogue and reach an agreement with the pupil. These 'laws' are divided into four main categories: professionalism, humaneness, control and reciprocity. The *Ten Commandments* emphasize that change in teachers' perception of their duty is essential to becoming the ideal teacher. The current study offers necessary implications and recommendations for the field in order to attain better conduct in the classroom.

Keywords: Conduct, Teacher-student relationship, Ideal teacher, Education in Israel, Productive Dialogue, Professionalism