



REVIS – A Modern Consumer Education Approach in Germany

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Abstract

Social changes are largely associated with alterations of habits and lifestyles. These changes require new and extended skills. Current dynamics of social change show that these skills can no longer be acquired through family interaction or random life experience. The spheres of nutrition and consumption show especially clearly, which changes are implicated by the scientific, technological, political, social and economic variations, which are experienced throughout everyday life. The development of the markets, the banks and the credit system as well as the "culture of consumption" require an informed and confident consumer, who is able to recognize and reflect upon his conditions, requirements and needs in an adequate way.

Resulting deficits enforce developments, which can cause a significant lowering of life quality for the individual as well as high economic and social costs for society. Our nationwide analysis and evaluation has demonstrated that the resulting demands for education in the German states are inadequately met by existing curricula. Institutionalisation and curricular definition of consumer education on one side, and education, training and assignment of teachers, as well as didactical conceptions on the other, differ considerably in their quality and quantity. They often do not fulfil the standards necessary for the acquisition of a basic qualification.

The current educational discussion requires close revision of educational goals and standards, the curriculum, the educational materials and the training programs in consumer education.

The main outcomes and objectives of REVIS are:

- Core curriculum and educational standards for all levels of education in the field of nutrition and consumer education, which can be used for different courses of instruction in schools and teacher training institutions
- Portfolios with training and assignment profiles of the personal performance and qualification for teachers