

Awakening to Psychology and Racism in the Southwest: Steps to Better Understanding for Clinical Practice

The Division of Clinical Psychology South West Branch is excited to let you know about this upcoming 3-part webinar series. Each session invites two fantastic speakers to share their stories, work, and experiences; we will end the sessions with space for reflective discussion.

Session 1: Exploring Racism in our Profession: Past & Present

Monday 12th October, 5.30-7.00pm

Register here: <https://www.bps.org.uk/events/awakening-psychology-and-racism-southwest-steps-better-understanding-clinical-practice>

Suman Fernando

Formerly a consultant psychiatrist in Enfield (Middlesex) for over twenty years, Suman is now Emeritus Professor of Social Sciences in the School of Social Sciences at London Metropolitan University. In the past, Suman has been involved in developing third sector services in London and Toronto and in supporting non-governmental organisations in Sri Lanka and more recently he was consultant to a four-year research and capacity building program in Sri Lanka that was overseen by the Transcultural Psychiatry Section at McGill University in Montreal.

Suman is known for his critical approach to western psychiatry and psychology from a transcultural perspective, and his writing on how institutional racism is embedded in these disciplines when practiced in the UK. He has written and lectured extensively in UK, Sri Lanka and Canada on issues of 'race' and culture in psychiatry and latterly on mental health development in the Third World.

In 2000 Suman was awarded the National Black Mental Health Achievement Award sponsored by Kings Fund and MIND Millennium Awards and in 2011 and the Lifetime Achievement Award for Culture, Race and Mental Health by University of Toronto in association with Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) Centre for Diversity in Counselling and Psychotherapy for his academic achievements.

His books include Cultural Diversity, Mental Health and Psychiatry; The Struggle Against Racism (2003), Mental Health, Race and Culture (third edition, 2010); Mental Health Worldwide; Culture: Globalization and Development (2014); Institutional racism in psychiatry and clinical psychology; Race matters in mental health (2017) and most recently (co-edited) Global Psychologies; Mental Health in the Global South (2018). Further details: <http://www.sumanfernando.com>.



Louisa Adjoa Parker

Louisa Adjoa Parker is a writer of English-Ghanaian heritage who lives in south west England. Her first poetry collection, *Salt-sweat and Tears*, and pamphlet were published by Cinnamon Press, and her third poetry collection, *How to wear a skin*, was published by Indigo Dreams.

Louisa's poetry and prose has appeared in a wide range of journals and anthologies including *Envoi*; *Wasafiri*; *Acumen*; *Out of Bounds* (Bloodaxe); and *Closure: Contemporary Black British Short Stories* (Peepal Tree). She has been highly commended by the Forward Prize; twice shortlisted by the Bridport Prize; and her grief poem, *Kindness*, was commended by the National Poetry Competition 2019.

Louisa has written books and exhibitions exploring Black, Asian and ethnically diverse history, and set up the *Where are you really from?* project. Her first short story collection will be published later this year by Colenso Books; and she has a forthcoming coastal memoir, to be published by Little Toller Books. Louisa also works as an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion consultant, and is co-director of The Inclusion Agency. She is a sought-after speaker on rural racism, black history, and lived experience of mental health.



Session 2: Exploring Racism: Childhood Experiences and Their Lifelong Impact

Monday 26th October, 5.30-7.00pm

Register here: <https://www.bps.org.uk/events/awakening-psychology-and-racism-southwest-steps-better-understanding-clinical-practice-0>

Malaika Kegode

Malaika Kegode is a writer, performer and producer based in Bristol. She has worked with a number of organisations including Roundhouse, Historic England, Elstree Studios and the BBC. In 2020, Malaika's debut theatre show *Outlier* - was commissioned by Bristol Old Vic after two scratch performances as part of their Ferment season. Malaika's work has been displayed at the Arnolfini and in 2018 she was included in the *BME Power List*, celebrating Bristol's 100 most influential black & minority ethnic people. Outside of her poetry work, Malaika studies film, and has worked as a programme selector for Encounters and Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. Her two poetry collections *Requite* (2017) and *Thalassic* (2020) were published by Burning Eye Books.

Claire Deacon

Bio coming soon!

Session 3: Exploring Racism: Adult life in the Southwest

Monday 9th November, 5.30-7.00pm

Register here: <https://www.bps.org.uk/events/awakening-psychology-and-racism-southwest-steps-better-understanding-clinical-practice-1>

Patrick Anyomi

I am an expatriate working in the field of mental health for the last 24 years in the UK. I have worked within the NHS since 2011 in different capacities. Mental health Advocacy remains my specific area of interest but I am a social worker by profession and currently working in the CMHT in Torbay. My country of origin is Ghana which I see as my motherland.

My dream for services in the UK is to get to the point where there is a lot of work around preventative work rather than the so much reactive work that in my experience is quite expensive and risky in terms of resource allocation.

I also have a keen interest in equality, diversity and inclusion and more around social justice for all. More recently my area of interest is widening into coaching and mentoring. I have also done practice education in the past social work students.



Gunel Ismikhanova

I am from Azerbaijan. I have been living in the UK for 2 years and 6 months. I am a single mother with a 12-year-old daughter. I am a human rights lawyer and I have got 14 years of experience in human rights. I speak 5 languages and I am an author of 2 books. I was an independent candidate for Parliament in Azerbaijan and 7000 people voted for me.

