

A THINKING SPACE SPECIAL EVENT

## AN EXPLORATION OF SOME SOCIAL CLASS ISSUES IN PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC WORK

### Guest Speaker: Dr Joanna Ryan

**Chair:** Frank Lowe, *Consultant Social Worker and Psychotherapist, Adolescent Department, Tavistock Clinic*

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**Thursday 25 February 2010** (6.30-8.30pm)

**Fee:** £25 (£15 Trust Staff/students, and other students)    **Venue:** Tavistock Centre

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Class issues and differences can be powerful factors within psychotherapeutic relationships, as well as influencing access to therapy, but there has been very little contemporary thinking and discussion about the subject. However, there is now a growing body of work that has begun to identify ways in which class can structure aspects of the transference and countertransference, and sometimes affect therapeutic outcomes. I will look at this work and discuss some of the issues that surface when class is explicitly addressed.

Participants will be invited to share and reflect on their own experiences of class and class difference, both within their clinical work and more widely.

**Joanna Ryan** *Ph.D, UKCP reg., is a psychoanalytic psychotherapist, supervisor and researcher. She is a member of the Site for Contemporary Psychoanalysis and has recently been a Visiting Fellow at Goldsmith's College, University of London, conducting a research project on social class and psychoanalysis. Her recent publications include: 'Class is in you: An exploration of some social class issues in psychotherapeutic work', British Journal of Psychotherapy, 2006 and 'Elision and Disavowal: The Extrusion of Class from Psychoanalytic Discourse and Practice', Sitegeist: A Journal of Psychoanalysis and Philosophy, 2009.*

**Thinking Space is a monthly learning forum at the Tavistock Clinic, which explores issues of race, culture and diversity in therapy/mental health.**

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**To book your place on "Social Class Issues in Psychotherapeutic Work", please complete and return this form with your payment to the address below:**

Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... Email: .....

I enclose a cheque for:  £25     £15 (made payable to The Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust)

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

Conference, Events and Marketing Unit, Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA

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