

Department of Social Work and Social Care Seminar

Relationship-based practice in an unequal society

Thursday, 19 January 2017

Families in poverty have taken the brunt of austerity measures with stringent cuts in welfare and public services having led to significant hardship for vulnerable children and families. At the same time the numbers of children in care in England are at their highest level for twenty years, with child protection investigations and care proceedings continuing to rise. Drawing upon recent quantitative and qualitative evidence the links between poverty, other social inequalities and child protection are highlighted, and questions raised about the role of a child protection system that focuses on parental blame whilst ignoring fundamental structural problems and the complex ways these impact on the lives of families. Drawing upon a framework that has not been applied in this area of work before, it is argued that a social model for supporting families

and protecting children has the potential to help challenge dominant perspectives. The presentation will conclude with recommendations for policies, but also, importantly, for the development of social work practice within a human rights and social justice framework.



Dr Anna Gupta

Royal Holloway, University of London

Time: 5.30pm - 7pm
(Registration and refreshments from 5pm)

Venue: Kingston University Business School, Room 0026
Kingston Hill, Kingston University, KT2 7LB

To book for this free seminar please visit:
www.healthcare.ac.uk/events

The Department of Social Work and Social Care at Kingston University and St George's, University of London runs a regular programme of seminars at its Kingston Hill Campus on issues of topical and contemporary importance, delivered by leading national and international researchers, policy makers and commentators, the seminars are open to all who have an interest in social work best practice and in social work education.

Biography of Dr Anna Gupta:

Dr Anna Gupta is a Senior Lecturer in Social Work at Royal Holloway, University of London where she teaches on the MSc in Social Work, Step Up to Social Work and Professional Doctorate/ PhD programmes. Anna's research interests include decision-making in the family courts, child protection and families in poverty, work with Black and other minority ethnic communities, and developing critical social work practice. She is currently undertaking a BASW funded enquiry into the role of social work in adoption with a focus on ethics and human rights with Professor Brid Featherstone, University of Huddersfield.

Forthcoming seminars and conference

Thursday, 16 February 2017	Health and Social Care Integration Professor David Croisdale-Appleby OBE from Durham University
Friday, 24 March 2017	Social Work and Social Care Annual Conference New directions in social work and social care

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