



INSTITUTE of
PSYCHOANALYSIS

Institutional Harm

Saturday 7th Feb 2026

8:30am - 6pm

London or Online via Zoom

Booking:
psychoanalysis.org.uk/events

Programme

8:30am

Clinical Seminars or Work Discussion Group (optional)

9:30am

Tea & Coffee

10am

Welcome & Conference Open

10:15am

What do we mean by ethics? Psychoanalytic Reflections on Ethics and Responsibility (Alessandra Lemma)

11:30am

Comfort Break

11:45am

Harm in Healthcare: Attending to Accountability, Learning and Healing in Contemporary Healthcare Practice. (Gerard Drennan)

1pm

Lunch (provided by IOPA for in person attendees)

2pm

Working with Groups of Survivors and Survivor Advocates Abused in Institutions - How Can Their Unique Contributions be Utilised? (Daniel Taggart - Recording)

3:15pm

Comfort Break

3:45pm

Black Men's Minds - A Presentation with Art Installation (Stephen Rudder)

5pm

Final Discussion (Chaired by Maxine Dennis)

6pm

Conference Close

Speakers

Alessandra Lemma is a Fellow of the British Psychoanalytic Society and a Chartered Clinical and Counselling Psychologist with extensive experience as a clinician, academic, and author. Currently Visiting Professor in the Psychoanalysis Unit, University College London, Consultant at the Anna Freud Centre, and Visiting Professor at Centro Winnicott, Rome. Formerly Head of Psychology and Professor of Psychological Therapies at the Tavistock Clinic, she has written on psychoanalysis, trauma, the impact of technology on the psyche, transgender identities, and ethics. She is the recipient of the 2022 Sigourney Award, the 2025 Scharff Award and the BPC's 2025 Bernard Rattigan Award for Psychoanalysis and Diversity. Her most recent book was *First Principles: Applied Ethics for Psychoanalytic Practice* (2023). Her forthcoming books are: *Psychotechnical Becomings; Psychoanalysis, Identity, Desire and Mourning in Times of AI and Digital Mediation* (Routledge, 2026) and *Journeying Through Psychoanalysis: Lessons from the Couch* (Wiley, 2027).

Dr Gerard Drennan Ph.D. is the Head of Psychology & Psychotherapy for the Forensic & Neurodevelopmental Services of South London & Maudsley NHS Trust, a Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist. Gerard has led nationally to bring restorative practice into mental health settings, starting with forensic mental health, and now more broadly, in the context of a rapidly-evolving paradigm in patient safety. Over the course of the past thirty years, Gerard has developed services and published in the areas of communication in healthcare as a site at which institutional practice reproduces social disadvantage, the role of voice and participation in recovery-oriented practice mental healthcare, and in developing organisational capacity to attend to the needs of those who have been harmed when things go wrong in healthcare.

Dr Daniel Taggart is a Reader in clinical psychology and program director on the doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Essex. Until 2022 he worked at the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse as the principal psychologist and clinical lead to the Truth Project. Daniel also works with the Northern Ireland Magdalene Laundry, Mother and Baby institution, and Workhouse truth recovery program, where he works with survivors of these institutions and their pathways and practices. He has also worked with the Northern Ireland historical institutional abuse redress panel, the Scottish child abuse redress scheme, the Jersey care home inquiry citizen's panel, and the Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery (NI Troubles Legacy). Some of his research focuses on the impacts of child abuse in institutional settings and how public inquiries can best support survivor engagement.

Speakers

Stephen Rudder is a Psychodynamic Psychotherapist practising in private practice and in the NHS. He co-founded Southeast London Mind's Black River Counselling Service and is currently developing a Black men's therapy group offer at South London and Maudsley NHS Trust. He is a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Essex, where his research examines the presence of a colonial symbolic order in a Black male clinical dyad. Stephen is an award-winning audio-visual artist; his creative health practice explores mental health themes through collaborations with community groups, infusing multimedia works with deep insight. From these foundations, Stephen aims to improve engagement with the intersection of Black men and mental health services. He has been commissioned by organisations such as UNESCO, Wellcome Trust, Science Gallery International, and King's College London, and has developed and led several successful group projects, including Hood Mentality, Black Men's Minds, and Undisciplined Thought.

Maxine Dennis is a Psychoanalyst and consultant clinical psychologist who works with individuals, groups, and organisations. She is one of the original founding members of 10 Windsor Walk (psychoanalysis, psychotherapy and training in South London) and a founder/member of *Black Psychoanalysts Speak*. She is also a speaker and lecturer for various psychology, counselling and psychotherapy organisations in the UK and abroad and a training analyst for child psychotherapy and various adult psychotherapy trainings. She has directed and staffed on numerous *Group Relation Conferences* (GRCs). Maxine has a longstanding interest in art, psychoanalysis across the life span and its accessibility to a range of communities, and her clinical practice is in South London.