

Advancing Practice 2017

30/3/2017 Keynote by Katrina Scior

Keynote Title

Intellectual Disability Stigma: What's it got to do with clinical psychology?

Abstract

Within the field of psychology attitudes are mainly seen as the domain of social psychology. Clinical psychologists are engaged in a lot of work that aims to empower people with intellectual disabilities and to increase their social inclusion. This work is rarely thought about though in relation to attitude change and even less so in terms of stigma, which places power at the heart of thinking about attitudes and attitude change.

In this keynote, Katrina will propose that consideration of stigma can both enrich our thinking and connect psychological work to the wider social sphere. She will ask why intellectual disability continues to be heavily stigmatised, what implications for challenging stigma derive from different theories, and what the role of clinical psychology may be in contributing to a richer understanding of intellectual disability stigma as well as efforts to reduce it.

Biography

Katrina Scior, ClinPsyD PhD, is Senior Lecturer in clinical psychology at University College London and Academic Director of UCL's Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. In the past Katrina worked with children, young people and adults with intellectual disabilities in community services and in the NHS, where she witnessed first-hand the negative effects ostracism and discrimination can have on people with intellectual disabilities, their families and paid carers. These days her work is concentrated in research and clinical psychology training. She has published widely on stigma associated with intellectual disability, and is concerned with identifying effective interventions to tackle such stigma in diverse cultural and economic contexts. *Stigma and Intellectual Disability: Stepping out from the Margins*, a book she co-edited with Shirli Werner was published by Palgrave Macmillan in late 2016. She is an expert adviser to Mencap, particularly on their strategic priority aimed at attitude change. She has a firm belief that the voice of self-advocates, and their family and paid carers should closely inform both research and training.

Katrina is a founder member of UCL's Centre for Research in Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (CIDDD), which at present primarily conducts research in the areas of stigma, psychological and psychiatric interventions for people with intellectual disabilities, and growing old and dementia in the context of intellectual disability.

In recent years Katrina has served on the Faculty Committee as Training Lead and as member of the Bulletin's Editorial Team.