Race and Racism in Clinic and Culture

Simmons College, Main Campus Building, The Paresky Center,
3rd Floor, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA.
7:30-9pm

How do race and racism become part of the individual and group psyche? This program brings together academics and clinicians from various disciplines and social contexts to talk about theories and practices of race, racism, and processes of racialization. Fakhry Davids, UK psychoanalyst and group relations practitioner in the Kleinian tradition, will discuss his theory of internal racism, a “normal” structure of the mind in racist societies. Tufts English professor Lisa Lowe will speak about critical race and postcolonial theories. Boston College psychology professor, Usha Tummala-Narra will talk about how psychoanalytic theory connects with her experience working both with individuals and with various communities, particularly immigrant communities. Johnnie Hamilton-Mason, Simmons professor of social work with long experience in anti-racism work, will moderate.

M Fakhry Davids, author of Internal Racism, is a supervising and training analyst of the British Psychoanalytical Society and a member of the Tavistock Society of Psychotherapists. He trained as a clinical psychologist in South Africa and teaches, supervises and lectures widely. He is a founding member of Partners in Confronting Collective Atrocities (PCCA), which adapts the Group Relations method to process the aftermath of mass atrocities such as the Holocaust and the Palestinian Nakba.

Lisa Lowe is professor of comparative literature and critical studies of race, colonialism and diaspora at Tufts University. She is the author of several books on orientalism, immigration, and globalization. Her current work, The Intimacies of Four Continents, is forthcoming from Duke University Press in Spring 2015.

Usha Tummala-Narra, Ph.D. is Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling, Developmental and Educational Psychology at Boston College and in private practice in Cambridge, MA. She was the Founding Director of the Asian Mental Health Program at Cambridge Health Alliance, and the Co-Director of the Trauma and Loss Program at Georgetown University Hospital. Her research and publications focus on immigration, ethnic minority issues, trauma, and psychodynamic psychotherapy.

Johnnie Hamilton-Mason, Ph.D. is Professor of Social Work at Simmons School of Social Work. She is co-founder of the SSW’s Pharnal Longus Academy for Undoing Racism. Her scholarship and research interests focus on African American women and families, the intersection of cross cultural theory and practice, and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. Recent publications include “Hope Floats: African American Women's Survival Experiences after Katrina” and "Using the Color of Fear as a Racial Identity Catalyst.”