

25 YEAR CELEBRATORY Conference

The Adoption Reconstruction

LISTENING, LEARNING AND CHANGING THROUGH CONVERSATIONS ABOUT INTERSECTIONALITY: IDENTITY, RACISM, TRAUMA AND ADOPTION

Chair - Satwinder Sandhu: IAC CEO

Reconstructing the reality of adoption is a complex yet dynamic process of re-imagining the concept and meaning of adoption for those impacted. To achieve this, we in the adoption community must enable an ongoing process of listening, learning and changing. To further our efforts to transform the adoption process and adoption support through the lens of equality, diversity and inclusion, IAC believe we need to address the intersectionality of Identity Formation, Racism, Trauma and Adoption. This one day virtual conference aims to amplify the voices of Children and Families of Colour and provide an opportunity for ambitious exploration of innovative solutions with experts in the field.

IAC is celebrating 25 years of working in this sector and our conference will create a space for reflecting on diversity, inclusion and identity in adoption practice and parenting. Join us for this one day conference where we can listen, learn and work towards change together.

Keynote Speaker: EUGENE ELLIS

Reconstructing our understanding of Developmental Trauma and the Race Conversation in the field of adoption

Social inequality and internalised racism amplify experiences of complex childhood trauma and add complexity to the recovery process

Eugene Ellis is a Psychotherapist, Speaker, Founder of BAATN (The Black, African and Asian Therapy Network) and Author of *The Race Conversation: An Essential Guide to Life Changing Dialogue*. Eugene has worked for many years with severely traumatised children and their families in the field of adoption and fostering.



SHANIA IVES

Reconstructing the Adoption Narrative: Reframing and Reclaiming

Lived experience of an adopted adult in an intersectional race equality framework

Shania is an adopted adult who is passionate about the mental health of Black, Queer and Adopted people, and is currently working towards a career in clinical psychology. She is also Co-Founder of Adoptee Futures – an inspirational UK adoption organisation formed by adopted people and aimed at everyone involved in adoption with adoptees at the centre.





○ RIMA SIDHPARA

Reconstructing Life Stories: Sharing our Untold Stories

Empowerment and healing of developmental trauma and race trauma through connecting with our individual stories

Rima is a BACP Accredited Psychotherapist, DBT & EMDR Therapist, Clinical Supervisor and Trainer with a specialism in working with trauma. Rima is also Practice Director of Rutland House Counselling and Psychotherapy Ltd and Chair of the executive of the BACP Private Practice division.



○ DR AMANDA BADEN

The Cultural-Racial Identity Model

An overview of the development of Racial and Cultural Identity, Tips for Adoptive Parents & Professionals and Racial & Adoption Microaggressions

Dr Amanda Baden is a Professor in the Counsellor Education Program at Montclair State University in the Department of Counselling and Educational Leadership and currently leads the Adoption Research Team. She is an avid proponent of multicultural competence and specializes in adoption-related research in counselling and psychology.



○ MELISSA GUIDA RICHARDS

Lessons learnt from adult adoptees regarding Identity Formation

Lived experience and research: The importance of adoptive parents and adoption professionals learning about racial identity formation

Melissa Guida Richards is an adoptee advocate based in Pennsylvania, US. She is author of *'What White Parents Should know about Transracial Adoption'* which was named as one of the best new Adoption Books by Book Authority for 2022.



24 June 2022 | 10.00-16.30 | Virtual | £120 plus booking fee

booking link: <https://bit.ly/3r9PDxn>

early bird booking £99 till 31.03.22

Free for all IAC Adopters

Email courses@icacentre.org.uk for any queries