

**TAVISTOCK POLICY SEMINARS**

“CONNECTING PUBLIC POLICY AND HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS”

# ***What is Childcare for?***

Lisa Harker

**Thursday 10 June 2004 6-8pm**

**Venue:** The Tavistock Centre

**As debate about expanding childcare in the UK increases, how is childcare being viewed by policy makers, the public, academics? Is childcare seen as an opportunity to provide the best environment to develop future adults - viewing children as empty vessels into which the right ingredients must be poured? Or are early years' services seen as a means to help adults - to combine work and family life and bring in a decent family income? To what extent are early years' services seen as the best place for children to just be children? Do we know what the developmental implications of childcare are? Who is leading the debate and where is the debate leading us?**

**Speaker**

**Lisa Harker** has been Chair of Daycare Trust since 2001. She was Deputy Director of the Institute for Public Policy Research until April 2003 and has also worked for Save the Children, BBC News and Child Poverty Action Group. She is an Associate Researcher at the Department of Social Policy and Social Work at University of Oxford and works as a freelance writer and researcher. Her publications include: “From welfare to wellbeing: the future of social care, An Equal Start: improving support during pregnancy and the first 12 months” and Poverty: the facts. Lisa is a columnist for Community Care, Third Sector and Children Now magazines.

**Programme**

Seminars will begin at 6.00pm with the main presentations. There will be a short break for refreshments at 6.45pm after which the seminar will resume with an open dialogue and end with brief commentaries from the speakers.

Tavistock Policy Seminars will be a forum for distinctive and challenging debate about public policy and its ‘human relations’ dimensions. Seminars will be organised to facilitate dialogue among members, and to promote innovative and creative thinking on crucial issues of public, political and professional concern.

**For further information and to book a place contact:**

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