

FROM BABY TO BOARDROOM:
THE TAVISTOCK-BICK METHOD OF INFANT
OBSERVATION AND ITS APPLICATION TO
ORGANISATIONS AND IN CONSULTANCY

Friday 17 - Saturday 18 October 2008
Tavistock Centre, London

Fee £230 (*group discounts are available on request*)

The method of infant observation, first developed and pioneered by Esther Bick and her colleagues at the Tavistock Clinic, has had an enduring influence, not only in the training of psychoanalytically oriented clinicians and other professions, especially child psychotherapists, but also in deepening the capacity for observation and the observational stance in 'seeing' and recording human interaction and its resonance in the observer, no matter what her or his field of endeavour.

While Esther Bick's focus was, in the main, on observing the interplay between mother and child, her method and conceptualisation of observation has influenced ways of framing and understanding the use and practice of observation in a much wider variety of settings, including those afforded by organisational life.

The aim of this international conference is to bring together practitioners, researchers and consultants familiar with or interested in this tradition of work and the contribution it can make to furthering our understanding and engagement in the dynamics of organisational life. Our intention is to inform one another, to exchange experiences and thus to stimulate discussion and debate on the practice of organisational observation and to explore areas for its further development and research possibilities.

The conference will include plenary presentations and the opportunity for dialogue with senior practitioners, clinicians and consultants on the development and application of the Tavistock-Bick tradition. It will also explore in detail its relevance to the observational study of organisations and the contribution this can make in training, research and consultancy.

Parallel workshops offered by international practitioners, drawing on their own experience of working in this tradition in a variety of different settings, will further enhance and enrich our picture of work being carried out in this vein in many places throughout the world.

In addition there will also be opportunities for participants to convene and contribute to workshops themselves in order to share their own work and thoughts in this field.

CONFERENCE CONVENORS

David Armstrong, Principal Consultant, Tavistock Consultancy Service, The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, UK

Ross A. Lazar, Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, Supervisor and Organisational Consultant in private practice, Germany

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Robert D. Hinshelwood, Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies, University of Essex and formerly Clinical Director, Cassel Hospital, UK

Ross A. Lazar

Anton Obholzer, Psychoanalyst and Organisational Consultant, former Chief Executive, The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, UK

Margot Waddell, Psychoanalyst and Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, UK

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

Jan Baker, Organisational Consultant and Tutor, Birkbeck College, University of London, Counsellor and Psychotherapist, UK

Judith Bell, Director, Tavistock Consultancy Service, The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, UK

Tim Dartington, Organisational Consultant and Associate, Tavistock Institute, UK

Wilfried Datler, Department of Education and Human Development, University of Vienna, Austria

Elisha Davar, Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist and Lecturer, University of Utrecht, Holland

Katy Dearnley, Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, St George's Hospital and The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust, UK

Peter Elfer, Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Studies, University of Roehampton, UK

Ina Paul-Horn, Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Klagenfurt, Austria

Helga Reiter, Faculty for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Klagenfurt, Austria

Kornelia Steinhardt, Department of Education and Human Development, University of Vienna, Austria

Kathrin Trunkenpolz, Department of Education and Human Development, University of Vienna, Austria

WORKSHOPS

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

Participants will be able to choose which workshops to attend. Presentations will include:

- An Exploration of 'Quality of Life' in Nursing Homes: The use of organisational observation in a research project
Wilfried Datler and Kathrin Trunkenpolz
- The Method of Psychoanalytically Oriented Observation of Organisations in the Context of Teaching and Research
Ina Paul-Horn
- Observing in Pairs: Mixing memory desire and reflection
Elisha Davar
- Observing the Observer in Organisations: Understanding the experience of observing
Judith Bell
- How to Observe the Mind of a Thinker
Helga Reiter and Kornelia Steinhardt
- Observing the Client's Organisation: A consultant's perspective
Tim Dartington
- Primitive Aspects of Nursery Life: Tensions between observation and management
Katy Dearnley and Peter Elfer
- Learning Through Looking: Using observational method in a counsellor training programme
Jan Baker

OPEN WORKSHOPS

The Open Workshops will provide an opportunity for participants to present material arising from their own experience and approach to organisational observation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Conference, Events and Marketing
Unit, Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize
Lane, London NW3 5BA

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events@tavi-port.org

WEBSITE

www.tavi-port.org/conferences

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER

- 9.00 Registration and coffee**
- 9.30 Introduction and Welcome**
Ross A. Lazar and David
Armstrong
- 10.00 Opening Remarks**
Anton Obholzer
- 10.30 The Aetiology of an Idea:
The growth of the observer
towards a 'psychoanalytic
attitude'**
Margot Waddell
- 11.30 Coffee break**
- 12.00 From Baby to Boardroom:
The further development
of both the observer and
the object of observation**
Ross A. Lazar
- 1.00 Lunch**
- 2.00 Dialogue 1: Speakers and
participants in conversation**
Chair: Anton Obholzer
- 3.00 Parallel Workshops:
Session One**
- 4.30 Tea break**
- 5.00 Thoughts and Reflections**
- 6.00 Drinks Reception**

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER

- 9.00 Experiencing the
Organisation: A dual
perspective**
Robert D. Hinshelwood
- 10.15 Coffee break**
- 10.45 Parallel Workshops:
Session Two**
- 12.15 Dialogue 2: Presenters and
participants in conversation**
Chair: Anton Obholzer
- 1.00 Lunch**
- 2.00 Open Workshops**
Convened by participants
- 3.30 Tea break**
- 4.00 Organisational Observation:
Past, present and future -
Reflections from the
Conference**
- 5.00 Close**

APPLICATION FORM

FROM BABY TO BOARDROOM: THE TAVISTOCK-BICK METHOD OF INFANT OBSERVATION AND ITS APPLICATION TO ORGANISATIONS AND IN CONSULTANCY

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Fee: £230 (Group discounts are available on request)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Please complete clearly in block letters

TITLE

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

JOB TITLE

DEPARTMENT

ORGANISATION

ADDRESS

CITY

COUNTY

POSTCODE

COUNTRY

TEL

FAX

EMAIL (please print clearly)

SIGNATURE

DATE

PAYMENT DETAILS

I enclose a cheque for £230 made payable to The Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust

Please debit my Credit/Debit Card for £230

Visa / MasterCard / Switch/Maestro / Delta
(Delete as appropriate)

Card Number

Expiry date

Issue No/Start Date

(Switch/Maestro only)

Security code

(Last 3 numbers on the back of the card)

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate here if you have any special dietary or any other requirements:

WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS COURSE?

- Flier
 Email
 Advert (please state)

- Trust website
 Other website (please state)

- Flier passed on by colleague
 Personal Recommendation
 Tavistock event/notice board
 Other events (please state)

None of the above

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

HOW TO BOOK

- Please complete this form, using BLOCK letters (photocopy this form if more than one is required, one form per person)
- Return the completed form and payment to the address below

PAYMENT TERMS

- Payment must be made in full and before the event
- Payment can be made by cheque or credit card, receipts will be issued
- Payment can also be made by BACS transfer, please contact the Conference Unit for details
- Invoices can be issued to organisations for payment, on request and on receipt of an official purchase order. Invoices will not be issued without the appropriate paperwork
- Invoices cannot be issued within 14 days prior of the conference date. All bookings made in this time must be paid in full at the time of booking

CONFIRMATION

- Bookings will be confirmed on receipt of a completed application form and full payment of the conference fee
- Joining instructions will be sent to you by email if an email address is given, otherwise will be sent in the post

CANCELLATION POLICY

- All cancellations must be made in writing to the address below
- All cancellations are subject to an administration charge of 10% of the conference fee
- Cancellations made no later than 14 days prior to the conference are eligible for a full refund minus the administration charge
- No refunds will be given for cancellations made within 14 days of the conference date
- The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust reserves the right change the conference content, timing, speakers or venue without notice

DATA PROTECTION

The Trust does not make your details available to any external organisations. Your details will be added to our database to process your request and to keep you updated with relevant training and events. If you do not wish to receive this information, please tick the box

FURTHER INFORMATION

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