

Problems and Dilemmas Training Clinical Psychologists Critically: a Norwegian perspective

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SUMMARY: This article discusses the problems & dilemmas that arise when teaching critical psychology while undergoing clinical psychology training in Norway, as compared to other international experiences. Critical psychology is rarely taught as a separate subject, but mostly as an integrated part of the general psychology training at Norwegian Universities.

KEY WORDS: teaching conditions, personal accounts, student involvement, direct advice

After reading *Teaching Critical Psychology: International perspectives* I believe that my teaching will never be the same. As a community psychologist I believe that context and power are vital issues in understanding human suffering, and important areas for intervention. However, as a clinical psychologist, this book has made me realize the importance of engaging with the context of mental health institutions. When teaching clinical and community psychology in the future I am now inspired to take the step into some of these international perspectives on teaching critical psychology.

The 13 chapters stand on their own as separate contributions describing the field of teaching Critical Psychology. The different teaching approaches come from knowledge based on working with disability, the education system, indigenous people, patients withdrawing from antidepressants, psychiatry and the law, Human Rights, domestic violence and supervision. Knowing that hierarchy, contexts and power structures are part of all Higher Education Institutions, a critical psychology perspective will be essential to a wide variety of psychological issues when training psychology students.

Nicholas Carr's experience as a teacher of psychology has been mainly in the field of suicidology for undergraduate psychology students at the University of Bergen, Norway. The program is obligatory for all undergraduate students. His teaching perspective is based on research and practice in clinical and community psychology. Email address is: ncarr9@gmail.com

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