

# Why the AMHP role must include action on social justice

Hári Sewell  
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**Top flight associates in mental health and social care delivering service improvement**



# Consider 4 Principles

Principle 1: Awareness of mutuality

Principle 2: Sit with the facts

Principle 3: Consider the ethical use of power

Principle 4: Distinguish your career from activism

# Mutuality

*“...all relationships are in some manner two-way”*

*Alexander and Grant 2009*

*“.....Understand the multi-layered complexity”*

*Ruch, Turney & Ward 2018*

# Sit with the facts

- Up to 85% of women on psychiatric wards are survivors of childhood sexual abuse cf 30% in the population
- Black people are 4-7 times more likely to be detained than the average
- Lesbians, gay men are more likely bisexual people to attempt to take their lives – 20-40% cf 4.4%
- Hate crimes for 2017/18 were up 17% on previous year

# Consider the ethical use of power

- Focus on the responsibility that comes with power  
(with great power comes great responsibility)
- Develop a strong moral identity
- Encourage others to voice
- Find mentors to keep you humble

Centre for Ethical Leadership, University of Notre Dame

See also, Richard Hugman and Lynne Healy

# Assessments

## Meanings:

- Document: completing an assessment
- Process – doing an assessment
- Individualized - assessing him/her/them
- ‘Facts’ – assessing circumstances

**The discourse / narrative does not locate the problems in ‘us’ as a collective (i.e. society)**

# Distinguish your career from activism

- Noami Klein identified a difference between our careers and activism
- Explore the ways in which the AMHP role supports stasis (in relation to social justice)

**What are the observable elements of your practice that show that you do not locate mental health problems just inside people's heads?**

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