

Whose Side Are We On? Social Work, Austerity, Racism and Resistance!



Southend Campus. 20-21 April.

A poster with the text 'ANOTHER SOCIAL WORK IS POSSIBLE' in a hand-drawn, blocky font. 'ANOTHER' and 'POSSIBLE' are in black, 'SOCIAL' is in blue, and 'WORK IS' is in red.

The Social Work Action Network (SWAN) is a radical, campaigning organisation of social work and social care practitioners, students, service users, carers and academics, united by our concern that social work practice is being undermined by managerialism and marketisation, by the stigmatisation of service users and by welfare cuts and restrictions. While recognizing that social work is one of the mechanisms through which the State controls the behaviours of poor families, we believe nevertheless that social work is a valuable activity which can help people address the problems and difficulties in their lives. Many of these difficulties are rooted in the inequalities and oppressions of the modern world and good social work necessarily involves confronting the structural and public

CALL FOR PAPERS

This year's plenaries are themed around:

- 1) *Poverty, Inequality and Housing in Post-Grenfell Britain.*
- 2) *The Crisis of Children and Children's Services*
- 3) *Racism and the Rise of Right Wing Populism*

We particularly encourage workshops, presentations and papers on the following more specific themes and topics:

- Anti-racist social work practice*
- Defeating the policies of austerity*
- Right Wing populism, moral panics and social work in the "post-truth" era*
- Interplay between Relationship Based and Radical Social Work*
- International Social Work and Social Movements*
- User-led groups and community campaigns*
- Working with asylum seekers and refugees*

Other subject areas relevant to the main conference themes

When: Friday 21-Saturday 22 April (programme tbc)

Where: Centre for Social Work, School of Health and Social Care, University of Essex SS1 1LW, Southend Campus

Please send an outline of your proposal (up 200 words) with your name(s) and contact details to SWANconference2018@gmail.com by Friday 2nd of March 2018.

Registration is now open via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/swan-conference-2018-whose-side-are-we-on-social-work-austerity-racism-and-resistance-tickets-41281717729>