



# **TRAINING AND SEMINARS**

## **Diversity and Difference**

## **Beyond Black Lives Matter**

## **Wellbeing Wealth**

**'When talking about impact, outcome, action Joy brings all of this and more! Her passion presented through her lived experience truly energises her audience and captures hearts and minds. Joy is refreshing and compelling and a true champion of how society tackles oppression, and inclusion'**

Simon Homes, Principal Social Worker Chair,  
Community Well Being and Social Care Directorate,  
Isle of Wight Council



# Seminars & Training

For conferences, teams and training days  
Sessions or talks can range from  
30, 60 or 90 minutes to a full day



**‘Simply brilliant seminar, thank you. You are a force of nature and not afraid to question practice truths’ Chukumeke (Chukes) Maxwell, Orchid Community & Associates CIC**

## **Action to Prevent Suicide**

As we engage in another Black History Month it’s important to not only celebrate the past but to look and listen to the emerging new sounds of individuals that are shaping better futures for transracial adoptees. This seminar aims to shed light on the complexities and intricate bonds that make up transracial adoption, will open up lively conversations, examine best practice and explore new narratives.

Drawing on my own powerful transracial adoption experience i'm excited and honoured to deliver this seminar at last, exploring the many highs and lows that is transracial adoption. I offer insights as to how families can help transracial adoptees not just survive but thrive, what can science teach us? How has wellbeing helped me? What does the future hold for young adoptees still facing adversity? This is an interactive talk where we can share, listen and learn from each other as we all seek to achieve more to serve others and deliver better outcomes and attain to higher levels of understanding.

All seminars come with pre-course reading, an interactive powerpoint presentation, slides for all attendees and notes.

**“‘An outstanding public speaker who was able to bring a unique combination of warmth, wisdom, personal experience and edgy observational humour to the complex, frequently contentious subject of transracial adoption’**

**Joan Fletcher Head of Social Work, Department of Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies, Goldsmiths University**



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**'You have so much wisdom – I know you have had to grow it through lots of troubled times – but sometimes or usually that is the strongest way'** Amy Weir

**Beyond Black Lives Matter** was written in 2020 and designed to help adoption/fostering social workers and organisations, communities and families develop better communications around race and inclusion. We explore the limitations & challenges of language when engaging with people of different ethnicities other than our own. What is the science behind racism and trauma and how can science, adoptees and those with lived experience help us develop better outcomes for families professionally? We look at transracial adoption, placements, birth story work and we provide a platform for professionals to share their knowledge and develop creative ways to help young people uncover their cultural identity.

We also touch on ways to teach this knowledge to others in our workplace and the importance of sustaining excellent wellbeing procedures. Some of the 'Wellbeing Wealth' seminar is taught in this seminar as the ability to deal with often complex and emotionally long-term challenges is paramount to sustaining excellent practice and the ability to enjoy work.

All seminars come with pre-course reading, an interactive powerpoint presentation, slides for all attendees, notes and post-seminar reading.

**“Joy delivered a really helpful workshop that gave the group so much food for thought. Joy has a very positive attitude, and is very generous in sharing her own personal experiences. The reading/watching list was also really helpful. The session really flew by and there was so much more to say!”**

Jan Cleave, SWAC Co-ordinator, South West Adoption Consortium

# Seminars & Training

For more information please contact us  
Info@Adoptionarena.com



**'I LOVE THIS PRESENTATION!** This for me has been the best part of the day.

Your experience of emotions and trauma are so relatable'

Sarah Range, Principal Social Worker/Head of Adult Mental Health

Adult Social Care Southend

**Diversity and Difference** is a powerful interactive unifying seminar that's also FUN! Aimed at any team, seminar or conference group that want to expand their understanding about what difference is, means and how to excel through challenging situations. We learn how to re-shape and navigate divisive words and attitudes and how to work and serve others who can culturally oppose us.

We look at role models and what we can learn from them and together we plot a sure path through the minefield of offensive and intimidation that is often associated with diversity. Today's world is constantly changing and since the Black Lives Matter movement erupted attitudes and options towards race and culture are constantly recreating new social boundaries and etiquette that must be addressed. These sessions allows participants to explore best practice, cultural stories and insights to help build and equip the team for a more profitable and productive workplace of respect and inclusion.

All seminars come with pre-course reading, an interactive powerpoint presentation, slides for all attendees, notes and post-seminar reading.

**'Super thought provoking'**

Rachel Jennings. Social Work strategy and development officer/principal social worker, Wakefield

# Seminars & Training

Sessions can be live or online using Zoom  
Zoom sessions are recorded and available to  
view online for 2 weeks on a private link



**'I love your slides Joy and how interactive they are'**

Hannah Scaife, Principal Social Worker for Adults,  
South Gloucestershire Council

**Wellbeing Wealth** It's been said that our body is the manifestation of our subconscious mind. In this seminar we look at some of the emotional threads that could be the root cause of blockages to good physical and mental health. What does good health actually look like and what does it mean to me? What is the science behind racism? How can positivity make us well? How can we pass on better wellbeing understanding and techniques to families or teams that we work with? We explore answers and questions in this highly topical seminar.

What's in your 'Wellbeing Toolkit?' I believe everyone should have their own kit ready for action, we explore and expand some powerful and thought provoking wellbeing ideas and discuss 'best practices' that your team already possess because shared wisdom is always fruitful.

This is either a stand alone seminar or combined with both other seminars

All seminars come with pre-course reading, an interactive powerpoint presentation, slides for all attendees, notes and post-seminar reading.

**'What a treat to be listening to Joy Carter'**

Tanya More, Principal Social Worker, Hertfordshire County Council



# Corporate Work Highlights

## **IAC – The Centre for Adoption Ambassador**

I'm honoured to take on this important role giving talks, press and media interviews to help raise awareness about overseas adoption in the UK and abroad.

## **Principal Social Workers Joint Conference**

I am honoured to have been recommended by Simon Homes the Principal Social Worker on the Isle of Wight to present 'Diversity & Difference', for nearly 200 UK delegates

## **Beyond Black Lives matter & Wellbeing Wealth for Adopters for Adoption**

I presented a half day 2-part training session for their UK team, really powerful engagement

## **You Can Adopt Campaign**

I was asked to write the campaign poem and feature in this highly successful National Campaign with Sinitta and David and Carrie Grant MBE.

## **Autumn Staff Conference, One Adoption West Yorkshire**

Theme: 'Black Lives Matter'. It was great to draw on my BLM seminar and talk about racism in the market place and adoption.

## **You Can Adopt Podcast**

"Growing up as an adoptee" I interview 2 young adult adoptees about their adoption challenges, goals and advice.

## **Social Work England National Advisory Forum**

I was honoured to join firstly the 'Experts by Experience' group 2018-2019 and National Advisory Forum in 2020 to help reform social work and best practice issues.

## **Tri Borough Virtual School Conference, 2nd year. SW1**

I was honoured to talk on education and adoption and perform a 30-min version of my comedy adoption show.

## **National Children's and Adults services Conference, Bournemouth**

Speaker with Social Work England 2019

## **Chosen**

Edited by Dr Perlita Harris I write an essay along with 50 other transracial adoptees about our life journey.

## **Public Policy Exchange Adoption Symposium**

Adoption Arena's team spoke on the future of adoption in the UK. Attended by 200 delegates at the Park Plaza Hotel, Westminster.

## **Comics 4 Adoption**

Started in 2013 saw us bring together top UK comedians who have all been either adopted/fostered, this year we explore the NAW theme of 'The Adopter' and communicate our individual stories through some seriously funny comedy

## **Westminster Celebration of Achievement**

Westminster City Council, Tate Modern. Attended by the Lord Mayor of Westminster . I hosted & performed a special 30-minute Comedy adoption show for 150 adults, young people and children (as young as 5) to celebrate the young peoples achievements of fostered and looked after children.

## **Nottingham Trent University**

I present a 30-minute version of my 1hr comedy adoption show and talk to social science students, faculty and general public about adoption advocacy in the UK and and social reforms

## **Goldsmiths University Celebration for Dr Perlita Harris**

The event recognised the exceptional life changing work and contribution to Social Work over her many years of service.

## **Camden Fringe comedy Adoption show 'Spot the Difference'**

I debut the show to sell-out performances and much media interest

## **Aspects of Joy**

This was my comedy adoption debut show that I took to the Edinburgh Fringe in 2015. It led to a National Tour and development of the production to the current show 'Spot the Difference'

**“an outstanding public speaker who was able to bring a unique combination of warmth, wisdom, personal experience and edgy observational humour to the complex subject of transracial adoption”**

Joan Fletcher Head of Social Work,  
Department of Social, Therapeutic and  
Community Studies, Goldsmiths  
University



# Media Work

## Highlights

### **BBC News24 overseas adoption interview**

With Jane Hill and Dr John Simmonds CoramBAAF. Discussion on overseas adoption

### **BBC Breakfast**

Discussion on adoption and race UK changes in 2012 with Ian Holmes, BAAF. Watch from 1.43 mins.

### **ITV News. interview with Nina Nannar**

We discuss the celebrity 'Cherry picking' of children debate, ethical & cultural implications. Nina is also from my home town of Scunthorpe in Lincolnshire, off camera we chat chips and gravy!

### **Channel 4 News with Jon Snow**

Discussion on the 2012 changes to adoption legislation in the UK

### **BBC World Service Radio 'Outsource'**

Interview with Kira Fomenko discussing a moving Canadian adoption story that went viral and my own experiences.

### **BBC World News 'Focus on Africa' with Komla Dumor**

I discuss overseas adoption, Africa and my advocacy work.

### **Times Radio, Mariella Frostop**

We discuss the new You Can Adopt Campaign and why it's important to bust myths and encourage adoption diversity.

### **Adoption Today magazine**

For the October 2020 issue write an article about transracial adoption and BAME families.

### **BBC Africa's Podcast 'The Comb'**

I joined Kim Chakanetsa to discuss overseas adoption, complexity and the loss of cultural identity.

### **Newsnight**

'I joined a panel to discuss UK race issues and pre-BLM incident with Jade Goody from the 1st Celebrity Big Brother. \*I advocate race & adoption

### **BBC London 94.4 'The Gabby Roslin Show**

'I often joined the news review slot, but in November I was asked to talk about my comedy and adoption work

### **Guilford Fringe – Featured show**

'Spot the Difference' Comedy Adoption show was featured at the Guilford Fringe in 2015. During my UK Tour 2015-2017

### **BBC Radio Surrey interview**

With Mark Carter about my Guilford Fringe Festival show debut with comedy adoption show 'Spot the Difference'

### **BBC5 Live interview with Sam Walker**

We discuss the personal cost of adoption regarding parents and young people.

### **The Camden Fringe 2016: Top Picks, Spot the Difference is featured.**

'Spot the Difference' Comedy Adoption show was featured at the Camden Fringe to as a 'must see' show.

### **BBC 5Live**

We discuss pop icon Madonna's first overseas adoption and the controversy surrounding the report

### **SKY NEWS overseas adoption**

We discuss pop icon Madonna's first overseas adoption and the controversy surrounding her choice

### **BBC5 Live**

Interview about Sikh adoption case, that later they went onto win.

## **'She mines a rich seam of Gold'**

Lemn Sissay OBE, Poet, Playright, broadcaster, speaker





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## Purposeful passion

To support, educate and empower those in the adoption field

## Train, learn and grow

Using our partnerships, online platforms, communities and media relationships we reach and engage into new areas of culture & society

## Build Future

Excellence is built. We are committed to working with individuals & organisations to pioneer change