International Review of Sociology ›
Revue Internationale de Sociologie
Volume 24, 2014 - Issue 1

359 Views | 4 CrossRef citations to date | 0 Altmetric

Articles

# Economics, psychotherapy and politics

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Pages 77-90 | Received 10 Jun 2012, Accepted 14 Dec 2012, Published online: 09 Apr 2014

Cite this article https://doi.org/10.1080/03906701.2014.894348 Check for updates

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## Abstract

The paper explores the application of ideas derived from psychotherapy to questions of economic and social policy. It is argued that disputes concerning human nature underlie many debates on economic theory. Class is reviewed from internal and emotional perspectives. Psychological obstacles to the achievement of economic inequality are explored and ways of overcoming them critically discussed. Particular attention is paid to the operation of economic sadism in the behaviour of individuals and societies. A range of ited wealth is explor hat we reconsid essly) ideali deeper discu nomics.

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## Notes on contributor

Andrew Samuels is well-known internationally as a commentator on social and political issues from a depth psychological point of view. Over the past 30 years, he has developed a clinical blend of Jungian and post-Jungian, humanistic and relational psychoanalytic approaches. He is a Training Analyst of the Society of Analytical Psychology in private practice in London and a founder Board Member of the International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy. He was co-founder of Psychotherapists and Counsellors for Social Responsibility in the UK and is currently the Chair of the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy. He received the 2003 Hans W. Loewald Award from the International Federation for Psychoanalytic Education and is a former Scientific Associate of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis. He is Professor of Analytical Psychology at Essex, Visiting Adjunct Clinical Professor in the post-doctoral program in psychoanalysis at New York, Visiting Professor of Psychoanalytic Studies at London, and Honorary Professor of Psychology and Therapeutic Studies at Roehampton. Publications have been translated into 19 languages and include Jung and the Post-Jungians (1985), The Father (1986), A Critical Dictionary of Jungian Analysis (1986), Psychopathology (1989), The Plural Psyche (1989), The Political Psyche (1993), Relational Psychotherapy, Psychoanalysis and: Appraisals and Reappraisals (2014), and Persons, Passions, Psychotherapy, Politics (2014) the award-winning Politics on the Couch (2001), www.andrewsamuels.com

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