

## NEWS INTERCHANGE

Edited by Sissy Lykou



### **On women and men, girls and boys and how we look at them**

[http://mobile.nytimes.com/2015/03/01/opinion/sunday/medicating-womens-feelings.html?\\_r=3&referrer=](http://mobile.nytimes.com/2015/03/01/opinion/sunday/medicating-womens-feelings.html?_r=3&referrer=)

*By Julie Holland*

‘Women’s emotionality is a sign of health, not disease; it is a source of power. But we are under constant pressure to restrain our emotional lives. We have been taught to apologize for our tears, to suppress our anger and to fear being called hysterical.’

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/page-3s-demise-should-be-celebrated-but-it-doesnt-mean-that-were-not-still-stuck-in-the-past-9990748.html>

*By Caroline Lucas*

‘Gender discrimination stalks women throughout their lives; at school, in the media and our workplaces (where we’re still battling for equal pay). Women have been belittled and served up as sex objects throughout the media for many years. It’s time to turn that page.’

<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2015/jan/18/are-more-men-getting-eating-disorders>

*By David Cox*

‘Eating disorders have long been perceived as an issue affecting women and girls, but this idea has been shown to be increasingly warped: the number of men being diagnosed has risen by 27% since 2000.’

<https://www.guernicamag.com/interviews/boys-dont-cry/>

*Brian Gresko interviews Ronald Levant*

‘[Levant’s] books [...] make clear that sociocultural mandates – not genetics – force boys to suppress feelings that violate masculine norms. The ensuing psychological tension, Levant argues, can lead to unhappiness, anxiety, or more severe mental health problems.’

### **Children, education and cuts; a scary fairy tale**

<http://no2np.org/graham-grant-children-will-subject-orwellian-official-audits-happiness-well/>

*By Graham Grant*

‘Children will be subject to Orwellian official audits of their happiness and well-being, and if deficiencies are found, “child plans” will be drawn up – state-endorsed blueprints for their ongoing development, overseen by the named person.’

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-32022405>

*By Abigail Simmons*

‘Government cuts have disproportionately affected disadvantaged children, a cross-party committee of MPs has said. The committee’s report said child poverty should be regarded as a breach of human rights and urged the government to commit to ending it by 2020.’

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/health/child-health/article4379577.ece>

*By Rosemary Bennett and Kaya Burgess*

‘The scale of the crisis that is engulfing children’s mental health is revealed, with official data showing that a record number of youngsters are being admitted to hospital for self-harm, eating disorders, depression and other psychological disorders.’

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/video/2015/feb/11/boarding-school-early-age-child-abuse-video>

*By George Monbiot*

‘Increasing numbers of children are being educated at boarding schools in the UK. We must protect children from the damage they can cause [...]. [...] if working-class parents did this, there would be an outcry. So why are upper-class parents getting away with what has become a form of acceptable cruelty?’

### **Mental health and disability services before and during the era of cuts. So what happens next?**

<https://www.guernicamag.com/features/my-asylum/>

*By Barbara Taylor*

‘After more than a century, Britain’s notorious asylums were no longer seen as models of enlightened psychiatry and replaced by hospital wards and community services. Where does that leave the people they actually healed?’

<http://linkis.com/i100.io/zGdKS>

*By Dina Rickman*

‘More than 100 people per day with mental health conditions are having their benefits sanctioned – more than any other group of people on sickness benefit.’

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/feb/23/hospital-psychiatric-prisoners-more-likely-preventable-deaths-report>

*By Randeep Ramesh*

‘For the first time, the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) examined how civil liberties of detainees with mental health conditions were protected across the health, prison and police settings. Its inquiry found that between 2010 and 2013 there had been 662 deaths among mentally ill detainees that could have been avoided.’

<https://johnnyvoid.wordpress.com/2015/02/13/middle-class-solutions-to-working-class-problems-is-why-charities-like-mind-keep-getting-it-so-wrong/>

*By Johnny Void*

‘The medical consensus that work is good for you does often not apply to those on the lower end of the income scale who face being forced by Jobcentres into the kind of work likely to make them ill.’

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/feb/17/lucy-glennon-disability-activist-real-effects-of-cuts>

*By Homa Khaleeli*

‘Lucy Glennon became one of the first of many disabled people across the country to fall foul of the raft of welfare reforms, which will affect 3.7 million disabled people by 2017–18, according to research for the Guardian. Critics claim the cumulative effects of cuts unfairly target people with disabilities – research suggests thousands could lose more than £20,000.’

### **Hearing ... voices? Against assumptions and towards a compassionate approach**

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/cultural/culturalinstitute/showcase/current/kei/compassionfor-voices/film.aspx>

A 5-minute animated film about Stuart. Stuart and his voices.

[http://theconversation.com/hearing-voices-dont-assume-that-means-schizophrenia-38616?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%2011%20March%202015%20-%20202522&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%2011%20March%202015%20-%20202522+CID\\_e754265d7b4461a71c7bd9a6faf3894d&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Hearing%20voices%20Dont%20assume%20that%20means%20schizophrenia](http://theconversation.com/hearing-voices-dont-assume-that-means-schizophrenia-38616?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%2011%20March%202015%20-%20202522&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%2011%20March%202015%20-%20202522+CID_e754265d7b4461a71c7bd9a6faf3894d&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Hearing%20voices%20Dont%20assume%20that%20means%20schizophrenia)

*By Angela Woods and Ben Alderson-Day*

‘We’ve known for a long time that hearing voices, or auditory hallucination, is reported by people with a wide range of psychiatric diagnoses as well as by those who have none. Indeed, 5–13% of adults will hear voices at some point during their lives – in circumstances that may be related to spiritual experiences, bereavement, trauma, sensory deprivation or impairment, as well as mental and emotional distress.

*We would love to receive your contributions. Please send any interesting news items to: [sissylykou@gmail.com](mailto:sissylykou@gmail.com)*