

PROFILE



Suki Desai has had a long career in social work practice and education. Her specific area of interest is mental health. She has worked as a mental health practitioner within psychiatric hospital, community mental health team and, more recently, was appointed as regional director for the Mental Health Act Commission (now part of the Care Quality Commission). She has served as a lay person on Mental Health Review Tribunals and has contributed to mental health projects within the voluntary sector. She is one of the original members of the Leicester Black Mental Health group and was involved in setting up of the Mental Health Shop (now known as Akwaaba-ayeh), a voluntary sector project providing advocacy service and advice to black ethnic minority people in Leicester.

Suki currently works as senior lecturer in social work at the University of Hull. She has published in the area of mental health and examples of her work include:

‘Mental health’ in N. Thompson and J. Bates (eds) (2009) *Promoting Workplace Well-Being* Palgrave Macmillan.

‘The new stars of CCTV: What is the purpose of monitoring patients in communal areas of psychiatric hospital wards, bedrooms and seclusion rooms?’, *Diversity in Health and Care* (2009) Vol.6 No.1 pp. 45-53.

‘Who’s been sleeping in my bed? The incidence and impact of overoccupancy in the mental health acute sector. Findings of Mental Health Act Commission Bed Occupancy Survey’, November 2006 (with Matt Kinton), downloadable from www.mhac.org.uk.

‘Accounting for Difference: Analysis of Nine Murder Inquiry Reports Involving Black People with Mental Health Problems’, *Diversity in Health and Social Care* (2006) Vol.3 No.3 pp. 203-10 December 2006.



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