

POLICY ON EQUALITY AND INCLUSIVE PRACTICE

The Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) recognises and values the diversity of all people in terms of gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, socio-economic status, religion, disability, race, ethnicity and membership of the Traveller Community.

The PSI recognises the negative impact that social exclusion, discrimination and inequality can have on the health and psychological well-being of people.

To ensure professional psychological practice is underpinned by the principle of equality, the PSI promotes inclusive practice among psychologists in all their professional roles. This principle applies in direct client work, education, training and research.

Inclusive practice for psychologists means:

Expecting diversity among your colleagues, students, research participants and client population, and respecting this diversity.

Understanding the issues facing diverse groups and being able to respond to their specific psychological needs.

Providing an accessible and appropriate service within your area of competence.

The PSI supports legislation and social policies advancing equality for and social inclusion of all people. In addition, the PSI will endeavour to promote education, training and research that supports inclusive practice for students during undergraduate and postgraduate courses, and the continuing professional development of its members and the wider profession.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Society's Code of Professional Ethics and will be revised within one year.

Date: 19th September 2008