**Workshop W2A**

Proposal Title: A poetic enquiry into the experience of intersectionality.

Names of Facilitators:

Richard Knight MBACP,

PhD Researcher in Counselling & Disability at York St John University

Counselling & Mental Health Clinic Lead / Coordinator.

r.knight@yorksj.ac.uk

Synopsis of Proposal: -

Being a disabled person who also belongs to other minority groups can be a multi-faceted experience, that can be challenging, isolating yet enriching work that provides insight into existential aspects of meaning / purpose. This workshop will provide attendees the opportunity to reflect upon their own experience of intersectional issues, and how they experience them in others, through the use of poetic inquiry (McCulliss, 2013). Poetic inquiry, a qualitative method rooted in phenomenological theory, can be a powerful tool for exploration of feelings and respond to subjects and themes, and is especially useful for themes that have clear affective facets (Prendergast, 2009). Each member of the workshop will leave with a poem that they have written based around the theme of intersectionality. Instead of simply listening to another person’s experience, this will enable attendees to grapple with the issues in a personal way. The workshop will be a supportive space to explore these themes with a researcher specializing in the subject area, particularly in relation to race and disability, and attendees will have the opportunity to share and reflect on their experiences if they feel able and willing to do so. The workshop facilitator will share a passage of their own work around intersectionality from the point of view of someone with multiple disabilities and a minority ethnic identity as a springboard. The workshop will last 60 minutes, with no minimum number of attendees, and a maximum of 20.