

# Ranting during the pandemic: Online contributions to our online world

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## Abstract

This contribution from 'the Front Line' comprises a selection of YouTube and other videos that the author has made during the past 6 months in the context of the coronavirus pandemic.

## KEYWORDS

apocalypse, COVID-19, psychosocial perspectives

## 1 | COVID-19: PSYCHOSOCIAL PERSPECTIVES: ANDREW SAMUELS IN CONVERSATION WITH STEFANO CARPANI

Making no claim for psychology as a solution to anything, Andrew Samuels and Stefano Carpani discuss a wide range of psychosocial (and more personal) questions. They speak about the struggle that is to come when some of us refuse to countenance a return to normality. The grim possibility is raised that many people are attracted to Apocalypse; and that there can be little hope without acceptance and embrace of risk.

The conversation took place on 9th April, 2020 <https://youtu.be/fda-yNmW7jl>.

## 2 | COVID AND CLIMATE: APOCALYPSE AND ALTERNATIVES

There was to have been the London Climate Theatre Season. Live. This is what I ended up contributing. Recorded on 3rd May, 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXg9cEb08Z0>.

## 3 | THE ECONOMIC PSYCHE: LIMITATIONS AND POSSIBILITIES OF DESIRE FOR A BETTER FUTURE

How will the post-virus future be different from the past when it comes to economics? The market-driven unfair distribution of wealth, whether nationally or internationally, underpins most other expressions of privilege, such as ethnic and gender disadvantage and discrimination. Many people want significant changes, as do I. But will we truly see such changes? What are the obstacles to our desire? In a talk which uses a psychosocial focus, Andrew

challenges a few fundamental economic assumptions. If these are unaddressed, it will undermine any possibility of change. So a depth of psychological engagement with class, money, inherited wealth and sacrifice, with an experiential guarantee to put you in touch with your 'inner billionaire'.

This talk was given on 17th June, 2020 in the Psychosocial Wednesdays series, an initiative created by Paul Attinello, Stefano Carpani and Bernhard von Guretzky <https://youtu.be/mjpuUhh-DUw>.

## 4 | BUILDING CLASS-CONSCIOUSNESS IN PSYCHOTHERAPY PROVISION

This video discusses how psychoanalytic practice can cross class and other divides, and the potential of collective ownership to transform the clinic radically and make it truly accessible.

This was a talk and discussion held on 2nd September, 2020, hosted by the Mental Health Workers Inquiry, New York with Juliet Spier, Billy Somerville, and Andrew Samuels, chaired by Lara Sheehi <https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=BTloOuBIKyE>.

## 5 | COVID AND APOCALYPSE: POLITICAL RUPTURE AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN A TIME OF CRISIS

The following links are to a series of four conversations I had with Lorelee Scott of the Sophia Center (<https://www.thesophiacenter.com/>).

### 5.1 | Covid and the apocalypse: What are the alternatives?

This conversation was recorded on 26th, May, 2020 <https://youtu.be/jW55qK3rOcE>.

### 5.2 | Citizens in viral crisis: heroes, siblings, ostriches and good-enough

This conversation was recorded on 1st July, 2020 <https://youtu.be/AayFRzy8thg>.

### 5.3 | New models of relationship and sexuality: viral intimacy in the west

This conversation was recorded on 17th July, 2020 <https://youtu.be/Q2XHFtgRkvo>.

### 5.4 | Community conversation

This conversation was recorded on 26th August, 2020 <https://youtu.be/d3jYujaglw>.

## AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



**Andrew Samuels** is recognized internationally as one of the foremost political commentators and theorists from the perspectives of psychotherapy and depth psychology. He works as a consultant with political leaders, parties and activist groups in several countries. He also consults to the UK's National Health Service. Andrew is a Training Analyst of the Society of Analytical Psychology, in private practice in London, and Professor of Analytical Psychology at the University of Essex. He was Chair of the UK Council for Psychotherapy and one of the two founders (with Judy Ryde) of Psychotherapists and Counsellors for Social Responsibility, and (with Nick Totton) of *Psychotherapy and Politics International*.

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