

## Education, values and society

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24 April | 16.30–18.30

Downing College, Regent Street

Dr Raven will share some insights derived from his 50 years of research into the educational system.

The effective achievement of what are thought by many to be the main goals of education depends on better ways of thinking about the nature, development, and assessment of high level competencies. Importantly, their assessment requires a move from a variable based to a descriptive measurement model.

But fundamental problems also stem from the diversity of values and talents. Still others arise from our centralised governance system. A pervasive climate of innovation involving experimentation, evaluation, diversity, and public choice is required.

Intractable problems arise from the way in which what happens in the educational system is determined by its role in legitimising and perpetuating a hierarchical society. Study of the forces behind this, and how to intervene in or harness them, takes us into the realm of Sociocybernetics.

Priorities for social intervention and research thus turn out to be very different from what they are most commonly taken to be