

# CRITICAL COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY

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Community psychology is continuously developing in various parts of the world. Interest in community psychology, and its potential as a distinct approach, is growing and evolving in parallel with social development, changes in welfare and governmental priorities.

*Critical Community Psychology* is written by a group of academic community psychologists with many years of experience working, teaching and thinking together. They have developed a clear and effective method for bringing together the theory and practice of community psychology, which has become firmly grounded in time and place. This book aims to provide students of different community-based professions, working in a range of applied settings, with not only the theories, values and principles of community psychology, but also with the practical guidance that will underpin their community psychological work.

## Highlights include:

- Clear learning objectives, highlighting the theoretical content, research issues and practice dilemmas to be covered.
- Case examples of community psychology in action, including critical questions to encourage reflection and reflexivity on the part of the reader.
- Activity questions focusing on both theoretical and practical issues to be used as both class exercises and independent study.
- A distinctive approach that questions many of the assumptions and approaches of mainstream psychological approaches.
- Authored by members of the largest community psychology departmental team in Europe.
- **Additional instructor resources are available at [www.wiley.com/college/kagan](http://www.wiley.com/college/kagan)**

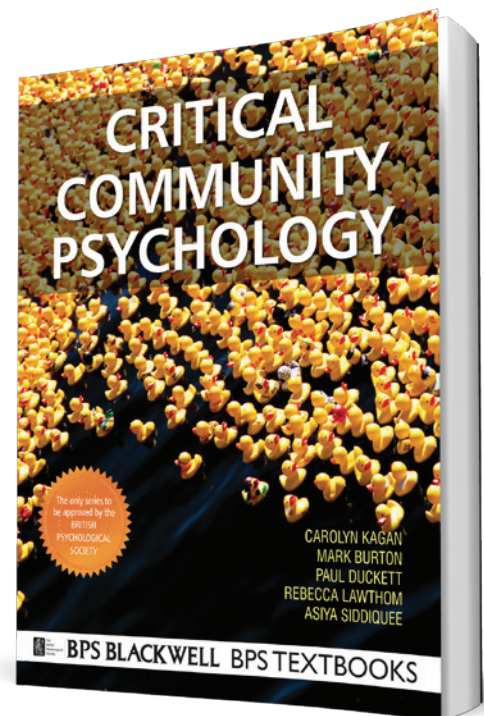
## From the Reviews ...

*"Psychology – and psychologists – are all too often disengaged from the very real challenges facing modern societies. This book provides a timely and powerful nudge to contribute our various skills and approaches to improve and enhance local and global communities. It deserves to be widely read by students and professionals alike."*

**Roger Ingham,**  
Professor of Health and Community Psychology, University of Southampton

*"... encapsulates an enormous range of helpful concepts and practical tools within the field of community psychology that link local action with more ambitious social and political change. It draws on a wealth of shared experience in critical community psychology praxis and is an essential resource for all community based professionals working with excluded or marginalised communities."*

**Steve Melluish,** University of Leicester



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Also available as an E-Text!



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## CONTENTS:

1. Introduction

### PART I: THINK!

2. What is critical community psychology?
3. Core elements of a critical community psychology
4. The contested nature of community
5. Community as social ties

### PART II: ACT!

6. Problem definition
7. Action planning
8. Action 1: furtherance of critical consciousness and creation of new forms of social settings
9. Action 2: Development of alliances, and accompaniment, advocacy and analysis of policy

### PART III: REFLECT!

10. Evaluation
11. Change, influence and power
12. Roles, skills and reflections on learning for community psychologists
13. Critical disruption: Does critical community psychology have an adequate praxis?

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