

**DR. BONNIE BURSTOW - OISE/UT, COALITION AGAINST PSYCHIATRIC ASSAULT**  
**The Withering Away of Psychiatry: An Attrition Model for Antipsychiatry.**

For decades antipsychiatry activists have called for an end to psychiatry but the movement has offered little vision of how to bring about that end. An unpopular movement such as antipsychiatry which is at odds with the state and prevailing hegemony begins at a serious disadvantage. It is further disadvantaged if it has no vision about how to move closer to the goal which it espouses. Drawing on principles gleaned from prison abolition, in this keynote, the speaker will taking some early steps in what she hopes will be a collective effort to fill the void. She will be articulating the bare bones of an attrition model for antipsychiatry. Central questions and how to use them will be spelt out. Guidelines will be articulated which antipsychiatry activists can use to stay on course and make difficult choices. In the processes, insight will be provided into the questions: What do we do? What should we support? Not support? If we have limited energy, and we want to move closer to our goals, to what might we best devote the majority of our effort? How can we ensure that we are not spinning our wheels or undermining our own goals? Significantly, while these guidelines legitimate certain current activist trends, they also cast doubt on others. Moreover, they put antipsychiatry activists in a position to wholeheartedly support some initiatives from within the mad/survivor movement to which they currently give short shrift.

*An antipsychiatry activist and feminist, the speaker, Dr. Bonnie Burstow, has been active in the antipsychiatry movement since the early 1980's, as a member of Phoenix Rising, as co-Chair of the Ontario Coalition Against Electroshock, as chair of Resistance Against Psychiatry, more currently, as chair of Coalition Against Psychiatric Assault. She is a prolific writer, whose works include Shrink-Resistant (co-edited with Don Weitz) and "Electroshock as a Form of Violence Against Women." She is a University of Toronto faculty member who teaches from an antipsychiatry perspective.*

---

**DAVID OAKS - MINDFREEDOM INTERNATIONAL**

**Planet Earth Gets Mad Pride! Unite Local Activism with Challenging Psychiatric Globalization for a Nonviolent Revolution in Mental Health, and Beyond!**

This era of Mad Movement organizing is deeply rooted in many 20th century social change movements, including -- but not limited to -- civil rights, poor people, women, disability, criminal justice and even environmental. What lessons can we apply from these decades of cross-oppression organizing to our efforts to end sanism? How can a vision of global nonviolent revolution unite us in a spirit of mutual cooperation with other movements in the 21st century? What role does the Mad Movement play in meshing the gears of mutual support with Martin Luther King's call for "creative maladjustment"? How do we find the elusive edge between individual empowerment and organizational unity? Is Mad Pride just about those of us with psychiatric labels, or about healing the spirit of all of humanity?

*The speaker, David W. Oaks, is a psychiatric survivor who brings stories and experience from his 34 years of community organizing for human rights and alternatives in mental health. Since 1986, he has directed MindFreedom International, one of the main independent activist coalitions in the mad movement.*

---

**PETER LEHMANN – IN ANY CASE (BERLIN)**

**Resisting Psychiatric Assault: A European Initiative to Introduce a Suicide Register**

Psychiatric drugs, especially neuroleptics, are known to cause depression and suicidality. As such, independent organizations in Europe are trying to set up a suicide register, which would make the reporting of suicides associated with psychiatry and psychiatric drugs to the authorities mandatory. Peter Lehmann will speak about how some organizations are attempting to set up a registry that would document suicides in a meaningful and accurate way, as well as the many challenges encountered in pursuing this goal. He will also demonstrate the importance of this project and its potential contributions to research that could help curtail the use of psychiatric drugs and other psychiatric interventions.

*Peter Lehmann is social-pedagogue living in Berlin. He sits on the Board of the European Network of (ex-) Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (ENUSP), and has been a member of the International Network Towards Alternatives and Recovery (INTAR) since 2004. Since 1986 he has been working as an author and editor. He is the founder of the Peter Lehmann Publishing and Mail-order Bookstore. His publications focus on the withdrawal effects of Psychiatric drugs and alternatives to Psychiatry.*

---

**DAN TAYLOR - MINDFREEDOM GHANA**