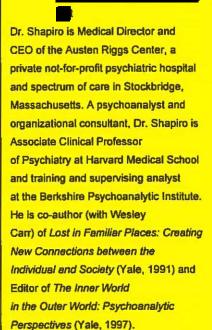
Edward Shapiro M.D

Medical Director / CEO, Austen Riggs Center

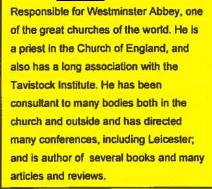
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Wesley Carr PhD

Dean of Westminster

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"Those people were some kind of solution..." Can society in any sense be understood?

In a rapidly changing world, with boundaries of statehood, citizenship, influence and authority difficult to discern, interpreting society is a tempting but uncertain enterprise. Using their diverse experience as heads of contemporary institutions, Drs. Shapiro and Carr explore the limitations of social interpretation, suggesting that care be given to discerning the organizational and group memberships of the interpreters and that efforts be made to listen to and negotiate the differing interpretations of others. Amidst the pressure of conflicting roles and interpressonal projection, providing structured spaces that are free from interpretation may be crucial for individuals to locate themselves and claim their unique perspectives. Those who dare to interpret society should be ready to notice their limitations.