

Socialist Educational Association/Raymond Williams Foundation.

# **POLITICIANS, EDUCATION & EQUALITY**

## **A day school for discussion and analysis with**

Professor Diane Reay (Cambridge University)

Martin Allen (author *A lost Generation?*)

Sam Tarry (Chair, Young Labour)

Estoril House, Wedgwood Memorial College, Barlaston, Stoke, ST12 9DG

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2011, 11am to 6pm.

“Rich thick kids do better than bright poor working class ones” (Michael Gove):

**What is the core problem of inequality? How far can politicians improve education: are Coalition politics aimed at reducing the class gap: or are their efforts futile? What about the class gap? The growing achievement gap between the classes – why opened up under New Labour? What role does the paradigm of marketisation and government interference in education play?**

**Why do we have a problem of NEETs – Not in Education, Employment or Training – is this a result of the paradigm? Is there a “lost generation”? The role of schools – can school compensate for society? What happened to the comprehensive movement? Raymond Williams ideal of the Common Culture embodied in the comprehensive school: was this destroyed by Thatcher and the rise of inequality in a post social democratic paradigm?**

**How is it possible to recreate an egalitarian thrust for the education system, (and not just state education) under the coalition and beyond - just getting a Labour government not enough as 1997-2010 showed – what more is needed? Discussion will question the possibilities of a socially just education system in the current UK economic and social context, while attempting to explore what such a system would be, and the changes that are required to bring it about.**

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**For more details or to sign up write to SEA/RWF at Viewpoint, PO Box 3354, Stafford ST16 3DB**

**Registration: £16 for members SEA and RWF, £21 non members, £10 unwaged. Cheques made payable to Socialist Educational Association at the above address – don't forget your contact details!**

**For background papers and information email [trevor.fisher2@gmail.com](mailto:trevor.fisher2@gmail.com)**

Facilities: semi residential. Bookings for accomodation (£33.60/39.60 ppn) and evening meal (£12 pp) by personal arrangement via the conference organisers. Contact us to discuss what you require. Coffee/tea/biscuits/lunch included in the registration fee. Accomodation and evening meal separate.