CONFIGURING PSYCHOLOGY

Configuring Psychology offers a vibrant, multimodal sociological analysis of clinical psychology as a profession and practice in the United Kingdom. Starting from the widely accepted principle and goal of enhancing access to care, it examines how political, economic, legal, and social dynamics intertwine with clinical norms and expertise. These interactions configure broader healthcare contexts, defining not only entry into therapy but also exclusion from it.

Through close attention to policy developments, professional strategies, and psychologists' experiences, Martyn Pickersgill reveals how access reforms shape clinical knowledge, therapeutic practice, and understandings of psychology itself. He shows how expanding access has become both a moral imperative and a managerial project, with clinical psychologists balancing competing bureaucratic, ethical, and emotional demands in an increasingly strained National Health Service.

As such, *Configuring Psychology* provides essential insights for social scientists as well as clinicians and policymakers navigating reform.

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MARTYN PICKERSGILL is Professor of the Sociology of Science and Medicine, University of Edinburgh. Known internationally for his scholarship on the sociology of psychology, psychiatry, and neuroscience, he is an elected Fellow of the UK Academy of Social Sciences and winner of the Royal Society of Edinburgh Henry Duncan Medal.

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Access to Therapy and the Transformation of Psychological Care

MARTYN PICKERSGILL

The University of Edinburgh

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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108494250
DOI: 10.1017/9781108664295

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When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781108664295

First published 2026

Cover image: shuoshu / DigitalVision Vectors / Getty Images

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
NAMES: Pickersgill, Martyn author
TITLE: Configuring psychology : access to therapy and the transformation of psychological care / Martyn Pickersgill, University of Edinburgh.
DESCRIPTION: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY, USA : Cambridge University Press, 2026. | Includes bibliographical references and index.
IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2025042862 (print) | LCCN 2025042863 (ebook) | ISBN 9781108494250 hardback | ISBN 9781108714228 paperback | ISBN 9781108664295 epub
SUBJECTS: LCSH: Mental health services–Great Britain
CLASSIFICATION: LCC RA790.7.G7 P53 2026 (print) | LCC RA790.7.G7 (ebook)
LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2025042862
LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2025042863

ISBN 978-1-108-49425-0 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-108-71422-8 Paperback

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