

**The Psychoanalytic Observation of Children**  
**Origins and Recent Developments -- Training and Research**  
**Its Significance for Psychotherapy and other Fields of Psychosocial Work**  
**An International Conference at the University of Vienna, April 19-21, 2024**

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**“One hour a week observing the baby.” Is it a lot or a little?**  
**Opportunities and limitations on the background of a current understanding**  
**of Infant Observation**

***Sunday, April 21, 9:00 a.m. / Kleiner Festsaal / Plenary session***

**Abstract:**

This presentation aims to enrich the discussion on the current challenges of a two-year observation, from the first task of finding a "suitable" baby to observe, to the point of stopping the weekly visits and saying goodbye to the two-year old and the family. This includes the significance of the task and role of the seminar leader and the value of observation as a route to learning from experience about unconscious life for the individual student and the seminar group. The presentation also addresses the question of how babies and parents might experience infant observation.

**Keywords:**

Infant Observation, tasks of observers and Infant Observation seminar leaders, the experience of Infant Observation

**Biographical details:**

Trudy Klauber is a Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, current Editor of the International Journal of Infant Observation and its Applications, and former Course Lead of the Tavistock Observation Course. She supervises and teaches on the Tavistock Clinical training in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy as well as supervising other child psychotherapists on their clinical cases. She teaches at the Centro Studi Martha Harris in Florence and in Brittany as well as presenting papers in Italy, Taiwan, and the USA. She has published articles in a number of journals on psychoanalytic observation and work with parents of very disturbed young people and others.

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