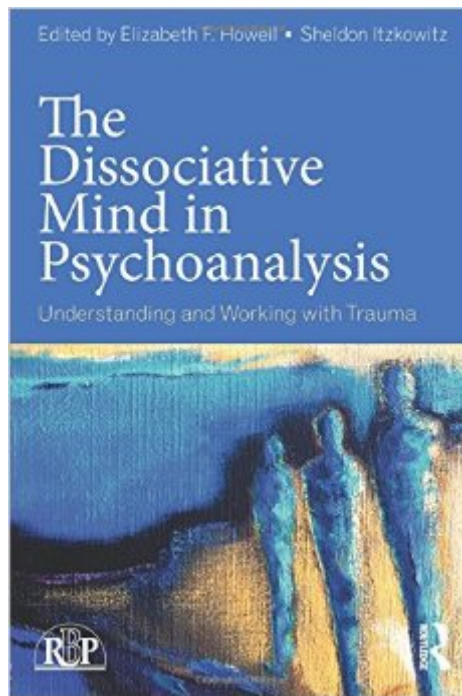


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The Dissociative Mind In Psychoanalysis: Understanding And Working With Trauma (Relational Perspectives Book Series)



Synopsis

The Dissociative Mind in Psychoanalysis: Understanding and Working With Trauma is an invaluable and cutting edge resource providing the current theory, practice, and research on trauma and dissociation within psychoanalysis. Elizabeth Howell and Sheldon Itzkowitz bring together experts in the field of dissociation and psychoanalysis, providing a comprehensive and forward-looking overview of the current thinking on trauma and dissociation. The volume contains articles on the history of concepts of trauma and dissociation, the linkage of complex trauma and dissociative problems in living, different modalities of treatment and theoretical approaches based on a new understanding of this linkage, as well as reviews of important new research. Overarching all of these is a clear explanation of how pathological dissociation is caused by trauma, and how this affects psychological organization -- concepts which have often been largely misunderstood. The Dissociative Mind in Psychoanalysis will be essential reading for psychoanalysts, psychoanalytically oriented psychotherapists, trauma therapists, and students. Â

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an important book contextualising the history of trauma and dissociation within psychoanalysis, as well as a timely book. It provides the mental health professional community within and beyond psychoanalysis with a critical and urgently needed update on thinking and understanding - cutting-edge - by posing some basic questions that go to the essence of the

relationship between trauma, dissociation and psychoanalytic theory and practice. As such it is a confronting read. The first three chapters of the four part book, written by the editors, begin with the provocative question 'Is trauma-analysis psycho-analysis?' with responses in the next two chapters, 'From trauma-analysis to psychoanalysis and back again' and 'The everywhere-ness of trauma and the dissociative structuring of the mind.' As a reviewer with a deep clinical and personal interest in trauma studies I found plenty to be excited about; from van der Hart's chapter bringing Janet and Freud into their often dissociated historical relationship, over how each dealt with dissociation, to Hainer's rehabilitation of Ferenczi's contributions to the field. In part two, the dominant orientations within psychoanalysis - Freud, Jung, Winnicott and Klein are reviewed in relation to trauma and dissociation. Part three highlights the varieties of clinical 'crisis' moments encountered in the psychoanalytic treatment of trauma and dissociative identity disordered patients (DID).

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