

Psychoanalysis View Of Human Nature

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Social Workers' Desk Reference - Albert R. Roberts 2009

Following in the groundbreaking path of its predecessor, the second edition of the Social Workers' Desk Reference provides reliable and highly accessible information about effective services and treatment approaches across the full spectrum of social work practice. Succinct, illuminating chapters written by the field's most respected and experienced scholars and practitioners ensure that it will continue to be the sourcebook for all social workers. Social work practitioners and agency administrators are increasingly confronted with having to do more with less, and must make decisions and provide services as quickly as possible. The Social Workers' Desk Reference, Second Edition, builds on the landmark achievement of the first edition with thorough revisions and over 75 all-new chapters. Its outstanding wealth of well-tested knowledge, presented in a crisp, to-the-point manner, makes it an even more vital resource for time-pressed practitioners. Page after page offers an abundance of up-to-date information and key tools and resources such as practice guidelines, program evaluations, validated assessment scales, and step-by-step treatment plans necessary for success in today's managed-care environment. The growing importance of evidence-based practice in social work is reflected throughout the chapters, as well as by the inclusion of an entire section devoted to showing how to use evidence intelligently and efficaciously. The Social Workers' Desk Reference, Second Edition, speaks directly to the daily realities of social workers in private, non-profit, and public

settings, whatever their expertise and in all areas of practice: assessment and diagnosis, ethics, risk assessment, program evaluation, and beyond. Case managers, clinical social workers, supervisors, and administrators alike who have come to rely on the previous volume will quickly find its successor just as indispensable.

Freudian Thought for the Contemporary Clinician - Robert Mendelsohn 2021-11-02

This book uses clear language, modern contexts and key psychoanalytic concepts to exemplify how Sigmund Freud's thinking and legacy is directly relevant to contemporary therapists. Interweaving theory with history, Freudian Thought for the Contemporary Clinician allows readers to take a walk in Freud's shoes, offering a new framework for understanding his arcane language and the cultural mores of the early 20th century. Robert Mendelsohn explores topics including sexuality and gender, racial injustice and cultural differences with direct reference to Freud's cases, demonstrating how traditional psychoanalytic ideas may inform solutions to issues we face today. Featuring clinical examples and philosophical explorations delivered in an accessible style, Freudian Thought for the Contemporary Clinician will be a key text for psychoanalytic clinicians in practice and in training. It will also be of great interest to academics and scholars of psychoanalytic studies, the history of psychology and the history of ideas.

[The Second Century of Psychoanalysis](#) - Christopher Christian 2018-05-08

This book explores the internal and external boundaries of psychoanalysis. It examines the interrelationships between various

psychoanalytic theoretical and clinical perspectives as well as between psychoanalysis and other disciplines.

The Quiet Revolution in American Psychoanalysis - Arnold M. Cooper 2005

The selected papers of one of the leading intellectual figures in psychoanalysis, Arnold M. Cooper M.D., record his unique ability to reflect upon the process of change and help us understand not only where, but even what, psychoanalysis is.

Object Relations in Psychoanalytic Theory - Jay Greenberg 1983-11-23

Object Relations in Psychoanalytic Theory offers a conceptual map of the most difficult terrain in psychoanalysis as well as a history of its most complex disputes. In exploring the counterpoint between different psychoanalytic traditions, it provides a synthetic perspective that is a major contribution to psychoanalytic thought. The focal point of clinical psychoanalysis has always been the patient's relationships with others. How do these relationships come about? How do they operate? How are they transformed? How are relationships with others to be understood within the framework of psychoanalytic theory? Jay Greenberg and Stephen Mitchell argue that there have been two basic solutions to the problem of locating relationships within psychoanalytic theory: the drive model, in which relations with others are generated and shaped by the need for drive gratification; and various relational models, in which relationships themselves are taken as primary and irreducible. The authors provide a masterful overview of the history of psychoanalytic ideas, in which they trace the divergences and the interplay between the two models and the intricate strategies adopted by the major theorists in their efforts to position themselves with respect to these models. They demonstrate further that many of the controversies and fashions in diagnosis and psychoanalytic technique can be fully understood only in the context of the dialectic between the drive model and the relational models.

Plato Freud - Santas Gerasimos 1991-01-08

What is love? Why do we idealize those whom we love? How do we choose whom to love? Are some kinds of love better than others? Each age returns to these questions with renewed

perplexity. Gerasimos Santas examines the two greatest theoretical architectures of love, side by side. It provides a thorough critical description and comparison of these theories, allowing a sophisticated dialogue to emerge between the two thinkers. In the first half of the book Professor Santas reconstructs and explains Plato's theories of eros and philia: erotic love, familial love and friendship. He attempt to show that Plato's was a unified theory in which erotic love has a special connecion with creativity and beauty. He then discusses Freud's notion of love as distinct from, though based on, his general theory of sexuality. He discusses in detail Freud's explanations, before and after narcissism, of idealization and choice of beloved. Freud too, it emerges, had a unified theory of love: all love has its origins in the libidinal instincts of infancy and childhood. The book concludes by showing that, despite Freud's claim that his theory of love is 'Platonic', the two theories are instructively different.

An Outline of Psychoanalysis - James Samuel Van Teslaar 1925

"Perhaps the multitude of feature articles in our newspapers and periodicals and of books aiming to popularize psychoanalysis denotes a widespread interest and ought to be welcomed. But so many incorrect views float about and so many absurd inferences, wrongly attributed to psychoanalysis, find ready acceptance, on this point, that the practicing psychoanalyst and earnest student finds this state of things far from satisfactory, notwithstanding the apparent popularity of the subject. This volume collects in one place the important (and perhaps the defining) contributions by the founders and pioneers of psychoanalysis. The chief contribution of psychoanalysis, aside from its special hypotheses and doctrines, is the viewpoint it introduces in the investigation of mental processes. Psychoanalysis represents a logical extension of the evolutionistic theory. It has inaugurated the application of the principle of evolution to the explanation of mental processes. Henceforth the approach of any problem in which human nature plays a role must include a careful consideration of the developmental aspects of the mind of man. Conversely, psychoanalysis has taught us that a consideration of the evolutionary or

developmental aspects of the mental processes holds the key to the understanding of problems in which human nature plays a role. The adaptation of the developmental viewpoint to mental phenomena, then, is the chief--the permanent--contribution of psychoanalysis to the growth of human knowledge"--Introduction. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2006 APA, all rights reserved).

Seven Theories of Human Nature - Leslie Forster Stevenson 1976

Nature, Nurture, & Psychology - G. E. McClearn 1993

[This book] offers a past and present view of nature-nurture research and identifies directions for the future of this emerging field. Top investigators summarize current findings in the most promising research domains: cognitive abilities and disabilities, the development of personality and temperament, and psychopathology. Leading environmentalists and behavioral geneticists explore the relationship between nature and nurture and propose new theories that encompass both concepts. The volume reveals why nature as well as nurture is playing an increasingly important role in research and theory in psychology. 'Nature, Nurture, and Psychology' is an indispensable work for anyone interested in the genetic and environmental origins of individual differences in psychology.

Toward a Social Psychoanalysis - Lynne Layton 2020-02-26

Frantz Fanon, Erich Fromm, Pierre Bourdieu, and Marie Langer are among those activists, clinicians, and academics who have called for a social psychoanalysis. For over thirty years, Lynne Layton has heeded this call and produced a body of work that examines unconscious process as it operates both in the social world and in the clinic. In this volume of Layton's most important papers, she expands on earlier theorists' ideas of social character by exploring how dominant ideologies and culturally mandated, hierarchical identity prescriptions are lived in individual and relational conflict. Through clinical and cultural examples, Layton describes how enactments of what she calls 'normative unconscious processes' reinforce cultural inequalities of race, sex, gender, and

class both inside and outside the clinic, and at individual, interpersonal, and institutional levels. Clinicians, academics, and activists alike will find here a deeper understanding of the power of unconscious process, and are called on to envision and enact a progressive future in which vulnerability and interdependency are honored and systemic inequalities dismantled.

Routledge Library Editions: Philosophy of Education - Various Authors 2022-07-30

This set of 21 volumes, originally published between 1955 and 1997, amalgamates several topics on the philosophy of education, with a particular focus on religious education, curriculum studies, and critical thinking. This collection of books from some of the leading scholars in the field provides a comprehensive overview of the subject and will be of particular interest to students of philosophy, education and those undertaking teaching qualifications.

Cultural Pluralism and Psychoanalysis - Alan Roland 2013-08-21

Cultural Pluralism and Psychoanalysis explores the creative dialogue that the major psychoanalysts since Freud have had with the modern Northern European/North American culture of individualism and tries to resolve major problems that occur when psychoanalysis, with its cultural legacy of individualism, is applied to those from various Asian cultures. Roland examines the theoretical issues involved in developing a multicultural psychoanalysis, and then looks at the interface between Asian-Americans and other Americans, discussing the frequent dissonances, miscommunications, and misunderstandings that result from each coming from vastly different cultural and psychological realms.

The Unconscious Abyss - Jon Mills 2012-02-01

The first extended treatment of Hegel's theory of the unconscious and his anticipation of Freud.

Constructive Clinical Supervision in Counseling and Psychotherapy - Douglas A. Guiffrida 2014-12-17

Constructive Clinical Supervision in Counseling and Psychotherapy articulates a practical, theoretical approach to supervision that integrates salient elements of a number of diverse but complementary theoretical perspectives from the fields of human development, psychotherapy, and clinical

supervision to assist in facilitating supervisee growth and change from a constructivist framework. This constructive approach to supervision is designed to serve as a practical, integrative meta-theory for supervisors of any theoretical orientation. For readers who already identify with constructivist ideas, this book will provide a theoretical grounding for their work, along with strategies to deepen their clinical practice. For those who are new to constructivist thinking, this book offers an innovative possibility for conceptualizing their role as clinical supervisors and alternative interventions to consider during times of impasse.

The Ethical Dimension of Psychoanalysis -

W. W. Meissner 2012-02-01

Explores the contributions that psychoanalysis can make to the study of ethics, and vice versa.

Conceptual Issues in Psychoanalysis - John E. Gedo 2013-05-13

In *Conceptual Issues in Psychoanalysis*, John Gedo's mastery of Freudian theory and broad historical consciousness subserve a new goal: an understanding of "dissidence" in psychoanalysis. Gedo launches his inquiry by reflecting expansively on recent assessments of Freud's character. His acute remarks on the intellectual and personal agendas that inform the portraits of Freud offered by Frank Sulloway, Jeffrey Masson, and Peter Swales pave the way for his own definition of psychoanalysis in historical context. Then, in topical studies on Sandor Ferenczi, Melanie Klein, and Heinz Kohut, he explicates the commonalities that bind together three generations of dissidents, each of whom undertook to supplant the edifice of hypotheses erected by Freud with alternative theories. Interspersed with these essays are quite insightful studies of Lou Andreas-Salome and David Rapaport, whom Gedo sees as "epistemological referees" attempting to reconcile viewpoints unique to their generations. In the second part of the book, Gedo argues that analysis now has the opportunity to move beyond this pattern of dissidence followed by mediation by drawing on observational research about infancy and early childhood to validate or refute its clinical hypotheses. In these chapters, Gedo offers critical commentary on recent efforts to extrapolate from infant research to the psychoanalytic theory of development. Only then

does he offer his own measured estimation of the "legacy of infancy and the technique of psychoanalysis." This review of "the challenge of scientific method" as it bears on analysis culminates in concluding chapters that probe the status of analysis as a hermeneutic discipline and the contribution of analysis to "vocabularies of moral deliberation."

The Routledge International Handbook of Psychoanalysis and Philosophy - Tair Caspi 2022-11-24

The *Routledge International Handbook of Psychoanalysis and Philosophy* provides a rich panoramic view of what philosophy offers or disturbs in psychoanalysis and what it represents for psychoanalytic theory and practice. The thirty-three chapters present a broad range of interfaces and reciprocities between various aspects of psychoanalysis and philosophy. It demonstrates the vital connection between the two disciplines: psychoanalysis cannot make any practical sense if it is not entirely perceived within a philosophical context. Written by a team of world-leading experts, including established scholars, psychoanalysts and emerging talents, the Handbook investigates and discusses the psychoanalytic schools and their philosophical underpinning, as well as contemporary applied topics. Organized into five sections, this volume investigates and discusses how psychoanalysis stands in relation to leading philosophies such as Wittgenstein, Heidegger, Nietzsche, and Kant; philosophical perspectives on psychoanalytic schools such as Freud, Klein, Bion, Kohut, and Lacan; how psychoanalysis addresses controversial topics in philosophy such as truth, language and symbolism, ethics, and theories of mind. The last section addresses contemporary applied subjects in psychoanalytic thought: colonialism, gender, race, and ecology. This Handbook offers a novel and comprehensive outlook vital for scholars, philosophers, practicing psychoanalysts and therapists alike. The book will serve as a source for courses in psychoanalysis, philosophy of science, epistemology, ethics, semiotics, cognitive science, consciousness, gender, race, post-colonialism theories, clinical theory, Freud's studies, both in universities and psychoanalytic training programs and institutes.

Psychology and the Other - David Goodman 2015
"Through constructive critical exchange, Psychology and the Other engages perspectives on the Other from various subdisciplines within psychology and related disciplines. The volume uses the language of the Other as a vehicle for rethinking aspects of psychological processes, especially within the therapeutic context. As a group, the contributors demonstrate that the language of the Other may be more fitting than the egocentric language frequently employed in psychology. They also embrace the challenge to create new theories and practices that are more ethically attuned to the dynamic realities of psychological functioning"--

Reflections on War and Death - Sigmund Freud 1918

Ego and Instinct - Daniel Yankelovich 1970

Theories of Human Nature - Third Edition - Peter Loftson 2006-01-06

This book explores the idea of human nature and the many understandings of it put forward by such diverse figures as Aristotle, Rousseau, Marx, Freud, Darwin, and E.O. Wilson. Each chapter looks at a different theory and offers a concise explanation, assessing the theory's plausibility without forcing it into a mould. Some chapters deal with the ideas of only one thinker, while others (such as the chapters on liberalism and feminism) present a variety of different positions. A clear distinction is made between theories of human nature and the political theories which so often follow from them. For the new edition, Loftson has addressed the new developments in the rapidly expanding genetic and paleontological record, as well as expanded the discussion of the Christian theory of human nature by incorporating the ideas of the Marx scholar and social theorist G.A. Cohen. The new edition has also been substantively revised and updated throughout.

Civilization and Its Discontents - Sigmund Freud 2018-12-29

Civilization and Its Discontents is considered Freud's most brilliant work. In it he states his views on the broad question of man's place in the world. It has been praised, dissected, lambasted, interpreted, and reinterpreted. Originally published in 1930, it seeks to answer

several questions fundamental to human society and its organization—What influences led to the creation of civilization? Why and how did it come to be? What determines civilization's trajectory? This process, argues Freud, is an inherent quality of civilization that instills perpetual feelings of discontent in its citizens. Freud's theme is that what works for civilization doesn't necessarily work for man. Man, by nature aggressive and egotistical, seeks self-satisfaction.

Freud and Philosophy - Paul Ricœur 1970

This book is a discussion or debate with Freud. Today we are in search of a comprehensive philosophy of language to account for the multiple functions of the human act of signifying and for their interrelationships.

An Outline of Psychoanalysis - Sigmund Freud 2014-04-10

Started in 1938 and published a year after his death in 1940, Freud's *An Outline of Psychoanalysis* provides a clear yet comprehensive overview of psychoanalytical theory. Written in a way that makes it accessible for all, this book is perfect for gaining a basic understanding of psychoanalysis and deserves a place on the bookshelf of both serious practitioners and armature enthusiasts of psychology alike. The text analyses the ego, the id, drives, the destruction impulse, and the inter-connectivity thereof. Sigmund Freud was an Austrian neurologist who became known as the father of psychoanalysis and whose seminal work constitutes the foundation of modern psychoanalytical theory to this day. This book is republished with an additional biography of the author.

Freud: A Very Short Introduction - Anthony Storr 2001-02-22

Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) revolutionized the way in which we think about ourselves. From its beginnings as a theory of neurosis, Freud developed psycho-analysis into a general psychology which became widely accepted as the predominant mode of discussing personality and interpersonal relationships. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert

authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

The Foundations of Psychoanalysis - Adolf Grunbaum 1985-12-16

This study is a philosophical critique of the foundations of Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis. As such, it also takes cognizance of his claim that psychoanalysis has the credentials of a natural science. It shows that the reasoning on which Freud rested the major hypotheses of his edifice was fundamentally flawed, even if the probity of the clinical observations he adduced were not in question. Moreover, far from deserving to be taken at face value, clinical data from the psychoanalytic treatment setting are themselves epistemically quite suspect.

Beyond the Pleasure Principle - Sigmund Freud 2015-02-18

Controversial 1920 publication expands Freud's theoretical approach to include the death drive. The philosopher's concept of the ongoing struggle between harmony (Eros) and destruction (Thanatos) influenced his subsequent work.

From Classical to Contemporary Psychoanalysis - Morris N. Eagle 2011-03

To help make of the current pluralism in contemporary psychoanalysis, Morris Eagle sets out to critically reevaluate fundamental psychoanalytic concepts of theory and practice. He reintroduces notions of the mind, object relations, psychopathology, and treatment from first Freudian and then contemporary psychoanalytic perspectives. However, there is an underlying emphasis on identification and integration of converging themes, reemphasized and expanded in a final chapter. Clinical vignettes and relevant empirical research are used throughout, thus basic concepts are reexamined in the.

Life and Death in Freud and Heidegger - Havi Carel 2006-01

Life and Death in Freud and Heidegger argues that mortality is a fundamental structuring element in human life. The ordinary view of life and death regards them as dichotomous and separate. This book explains why this view is unsatisfactory and presents a new model of the relationship between life and death that sees them as interlinked. Using Heidegger's concept

of being towards death and Freud's notion of the death drive, it demonstrates the extensive influence death has on everyday life and gives an account of its structural and existential significance. By bringing the two perspectives together, this book presents a reading of death that establishes its significance for life, creates a meeting point for philosophical and psychoanalytical perspectives, and examines the problems and strengths of each. It then puts forth a unified view, based on the strengths of each position and overcoming the problems of each. Finally, it works out the ethical consequences of this view. This volume is of interest for philosophers, mental health practitioners and those working in the field of death studies.

The Myth of Closure: Ambiguous Loss in a Time of Pandemic and Change - Pauline Boss 2021-12-14

How do we begin to cope with loss that cannot be resolved? The COVID-19 pandemic has left many of us haunted by feelings of anxiety, despair, and even anger. In this book, pioneering therapist Pauline Boss identifies these vague feelings of distress as caused by ambiguous loss, losses that remain unclear and hard to pin down, and thus have no closure. Collectively the world is grieving as the pandemic continues to change our everyday lives. With a loss of trust in the world as a safe place, a loss of certainty about health care, education, employment, lingering anxieties plague many of us, even as parts of the world are opening back up again. Yet after so much loss, our search must be for a sense of meaning, and not something as elusive and impossible as "closure." This book provides many strategies for coping: encouraging us to increase our tolerance of ambiguity and acknowledging our resilience as we express a normal grief, and still look to the future with hope and possibility.

Why Freud was Wrong - Richard Webster 2005

This is the first complete and coherent account of Freud's life and work to be written from a consistently sceptical point of view. Meticulously researched and powerfully argued, the book is a devastating portrait of the interpreter of dreams. *The Adaptive Design of the Human Psyche* - Malcolm Owen Slavin 1992-09-25
Addressing one of the most fundamental issues

in any examination of human experience, this important new work connects evolutionary biological concepts to modern psychoanalytic theory and the clinical encounter. Synthesizing their years of experience in the practice of psychotherapy and psychoanalysis, the authors provide a comparative psychoanalytic map of current theoretical controversies and a new way of deconstructing the hidden assumptions that underlie Freudian, Ego Psychological, Kleinian, Object Relational, Self Psychological, and Interpersonal theories. In so doing, they provide a new vantage point from which to integrate competing models into a larger picture that more fully embraces the many facets of human nature. Moreover, they offer clinicians a new framework with which to understand and respond to the inevitable paradoxes and conflicts that arise in the therapeutic relationship.

Psychoanalysis and Religious Experience - William W. Meissner 1986-01-01

In this provocative book, W. W. Meissner, a Jesuit and psychoanalyst, attempts to bring about a rapprochement between psychoanalysis and religious thinking. Utilizing the resources of modern psychoanalytic insight, he examines Freud's views on religion, explores the dialectical relationship between psychoanalysis and religion, and applies more contemporary concepts in psychoanalysis to the understanding of religious experience. Dr. Meissner has written a book which is consistently interesting, often challenging, and impressive for its wide range of scholarship in two fields not often combined in the same work...Dr. Meissner has done us a service in this scholarly work by demonstrating how two perspectives of the human condition have over the course of the last several decades come to similar conclusions.-Otto F. Thaler, M.D., Journal of the American Academy of Religion A rich and stimulating book addressing important issues that lie at the intersection of psychoanalysis and religion.-Paul C. Vitz, Contemporary Psychology Meissner has made a challenging useful contribution that will be pondered, applied, and debated. It will undoubtedly also achieve the goal of bringing about more understanding between analysts and theologians.-Lowell Rubin, M.D., Newsletter, Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute [Psychoanalysis and Ethics](#) - Ernest Wallwork

1991

Psychoanalysis has had a profound impact on popular morals, for Freud's discoveries have made us aware that unconscious motivations may subvert moral conduct and that moral judgments may be rationalizations of self-interest or expressions of hostility. Freud has, in fact, been called a founder of the hermeneutics of suspicion that pervades modern attitudes toward morality. In this book, however, a psychoanalyst who is also a professor of ethics asserts that we do not accurately understand Freud on the various psychological issues relevant to morality and the ethical implications that can be drawn from his views. Ernest Wallwork offers a reinterpretation of Freudian theory, showing the ways in which it points toward the possibility of genuine moral behaviour.

Psychoanalytic Studies of the Personality - William Ronald Dodds Fairbairn 1994

This classic collection of Fairbairn's papers with an introduction which sets his work in context offers an overview of object relations theory and the modern developments launched by Fairbairn's discoveries.

Personality Theories - Albert Ellis 2009

'Personality Theories' by Albert Ellis - the founding father of Rational Emotive Behaviour Therapy - provides a comprehensive review of all major theories of personality including theories of personality pathology. Importantly, it critically reviews each of these theories in light of the competing theories as well as recent research.

The Blank Slate - Steven Pinker 2003-08-26

A brilliant inquiry into the origins of human nature from the author of Rationality, The Better Angels of Our Nature, and Enlightenment Now. "Sweeping, erudite, sharply argued, and fun to read..also highly persuasive." --Time Updated with a new afterword One of the world's leading experts on language and the mind explores the idea of human nature and its moral, emotional, and political colorings. With characteristic wit, lucidity, and insight, Pinker argues that the dogma that the mind has no innate traits-a doctrine held by many intellectuals during the past century-denies our common humanity and our individual preferences, replaces objective analyses of social problems with feel-good slogans, and distorts our understanding of

politics, violence, parenting, and the arts. Injecting calm and rationality into debates that are notorious for ax-grinding and mud-slinging, Pinker shows the importance of an honest acknowledgment of human nature based on science and common sense.

The Counselor's Companion - Jocelyn Gregoire 2007

Students and recent graduates of counseling and human services programs will consider *The Counselor's Companion* an indispensable tool to enhance professional practice, knowledge, and skill. The text is a reference-style resource that provides new counselors with a way to bridge the gap between what they learned in the classroom and the challenges they will meet in their practice. Beginning counselors will find concise answers to common questions that will likely arise in the course of their professional development and a reliable reference "companion" as they embark on their careers in the profession. This volume features contributions from counselor educators and professionals in the field, guided largely by the core-curriculum of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Program (CACREP). Information is presented in brief form, making the main points of each section concise, clear, visible, and easily accessible. Readers are also introduced to cutting-edge areas of research.

On the Basis of Morality - Arthur Schopenhauer 1998-01-01

This edition originally published by Berghahn Books. Schopenhauer's treatise on ethics is presented here in E. F. J. Payne's definitive translation, based on the Hubscher edition (Wiesbaden, 1946-1950). This edition includes an Introduction by David Cartwright, a translator's preface, biographical note, selected

bibliography, and an index. For convenient reference to passages in Kant's work discussed by Schopenhauer, Academy edition numbers have been added.

The Truth About Freud's Technique -

Michael Guy Thompson 1995-07-01

In this unusual and much-needed reappraisal of Freud's clinical technique, M. Guy Thompson challenges the conventional notion that psychoanalysis promotes relief from suffering and replaces it with a more radical assertion, that psychoanalysis seeks to mend our relationship with the real that has been fractured by our avoidance of the same.

Thompson suggests that, while avoiding reality may help to relieve our experience of suffering, this short-term solution inevitably leads to a split in our existence. M. Guy Thompson forcefully disagrees with the recent trend that dismisses Freud as an historical figure who is out of step with the times. He argues, instead, for a return to the forgotten Freud, a man inherently philosophical and rooted in a Greek preoccupation with the nature of truth, ethics, the purpose of life and our relationship with reality. Thompson's argument is situated in a stunning re-reading of Freud's technical papers, including a new evaluation of his analyses of Dora and the Rat Man in the context of Heidegger's understanding of truth. In this remarkable examination of Freud's technical recommendations, M. Guy Thompson explains how psychoanalysis was originally designed to re-acquaint us with realities we had abandoned by encountering them in the contest of the analytic experience. This provocative examination of Freud's conception of psychoanalysis reveals a more personal Freud than we had previously supposed, one that is more humanistic and real.