



Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis

By Peter Fonagy

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Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis By Peter Fonagy

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Attachment Theory shows scientifically how our earliest relationships with our mothers influence our later relationships in life. This book offers an excellent introduction to the findings of attachment theory and the major schools of psychoanalytic thought.

"The book every student, colleague, and even rival theoretician has been waiting for. With characteristic wit, philosophical sophistication, scholarship, humanity, incisiveness, and creativity, Fonagy succinctly describes the links, differences, and future directions of his twin themes. [His book] is destined to take its place as one of a select list of essential psychology books of the decade."

-Jeremy Holmes, Senior Lecturer in Psychotherapy, University of Exeter

"Extraordinary--an invaluable resource for developmental psychoanalysis."

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Editorial Review

Review

'To be a world leader in one discipline is impressive enough; to be at the cutting edge of two is nothing short of extraordinary. Fonagy straddles the worlds of psychoanalysis and attachment theory like a colossus; this is the book every student, colleague and even rival theoreticians has been waiting for. With characteristic wit, philosophical sophistication, scholarship, humanity, incisiveness and creativity, Fonagy succinctly describes the links, differences, and future directions of his twin themes.' Central to the book is his influential theory about the origins of the capacity for mentalization: that secure attachment is a pre-condition for the development of a sense of self and other. Fonagy links this to psychoanalytic ideas about symbolization, reality testing, and play in normal development, and the childhood origins of concrete thinking, delusion, and pathological defences in borderline personality disorder. 'Attachment Theory and Psychoanalysis is destined to take its place as one of a select list of essential psychology books of the decade.' - Jeremy Holmes, Senior Lecturer in Psychotherapy, University of Exeter '[Fonagy's] magisterial scholarship should ensure that the book remains a key psychological reference book for many years to come.' - Ann Casement, The Journal of Analytical Psychology 'An extraordinary analysis. Peter Fonagy's book offers a unique and remarkable contribution to our understanding of the meaningful relationship that has evolved between psychoanalytic and attachment theories... The volume will become an invaluable resource for developmental psychoanalysis.' - Joy D. Osofsky, Professor at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Centre, Coeditor of WAIMH Handbook of Infant Mental Health

About the Author

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Peter Fonagy, Ph.D., F.B.A., is Freud Memorial Professor of Psychoanalysis and Director of the Sub-Department of Clinical Health Psychology at University College London.

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