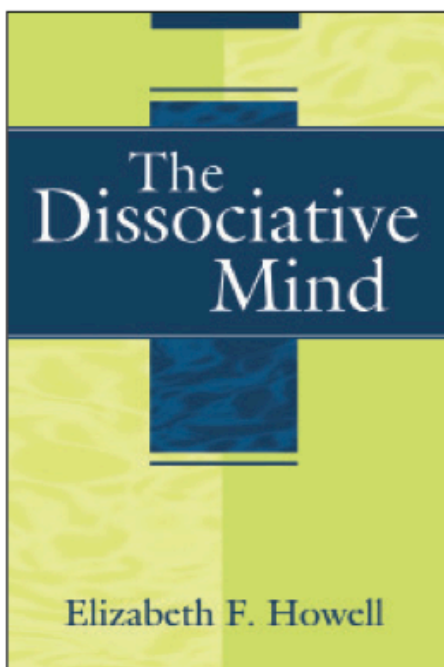


FROM ROUTLEDGE MENTAL HEALTH

The Dissociative Mind

BY ELIZABETH F. HOWELL



The Dissociative Mind

By **Elizabeth F. Howell**, Associate Editor of the *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*, New York, USA

"Howell's excellent and clearly written book covers both aspects of dissociation. Howell makes excellent use of both her emotional sensitivity and her sharp intellect...read it and discover all it has to offer." - International Journal of Psychoanalysis

Drawing on the pioneering work of Janet, Freud, Sullivan, and Fairbairn and making extensive use of recent literature, Elizabeth Howell develops a comprehensive model of the dissociative mind. Dissociation, for her, suffuses everyday life; it is a relationally structured survival strategy that arises out of the mind's need to allow interaction with frightening but still urgently needed others. For therapists dissociated self-states are among the everyday fare of clinical work and gain expression in dreams, projective identifications, and enactments. Pathological dissociation, on the other hand, results when the psyche is overwhelmed by trauma and signals the collapse of relationality and an addictive clinging to dissociative solutions.

Elegant in conception, thoughtful in tone, broad and deep in clinical applications, Howell takes the reader from neurophysiology to attachment theory to the clinical remediation of trauma states to the reality of evil. It provides a masterful overview of a literature that extends forward to the writings of Bromberg, Stern, Ryle, and others. The capstone of contemporary understandings of dissociation in relation to development and psychopathology, *The Dissociative Mind* will be an adventure and an education for its many clinical readers.

CONTENTS: Dissociation: A Model of the Psyche. The Self in Context: Unity and Multiplicity. Pioneers of Psychodynamic Thinking About Dissociation: Janet, Freud, Ferenczi, and Fairbairn. The Interpersonal and Relational Traditions: Sullivan, Bromberg, Davies and Frawley-O'Dea, and Stern. Hybrid Models: Ryle's Multiple Self State Model; Van Der Hart, Nijenhuis, and Steele's Theory of the Structural Dissociation of the Personality; Hilgard's Neodissociation Theory; and Somatoform Dissociation. Attachment Theory and Dissociation. Attachment-Based Dissociation: A Different View of Splitting. Projective Identification: Blind Foresight. Concepts of Psychic Processes, Defense, and Personality Organization. Narcissism: A Relational Aspect of Dissociation. "Good Girls," "Sexy Bad Girls," and Warriors: The Role of Trauma and Dissociation in the Creation and Reproduction of Gender. The Dissociative Underpinnings of Psychopathy: When the Terrible is True, Not Only Are We Not Safe, But, More Important, We Can No Longer Imagine.

2008: 328pp.

Pb: 978-0-88163-495-2: \$39.95/

www.psychanalysisarena.com

 **Routledge**
Taylor & Francis Group