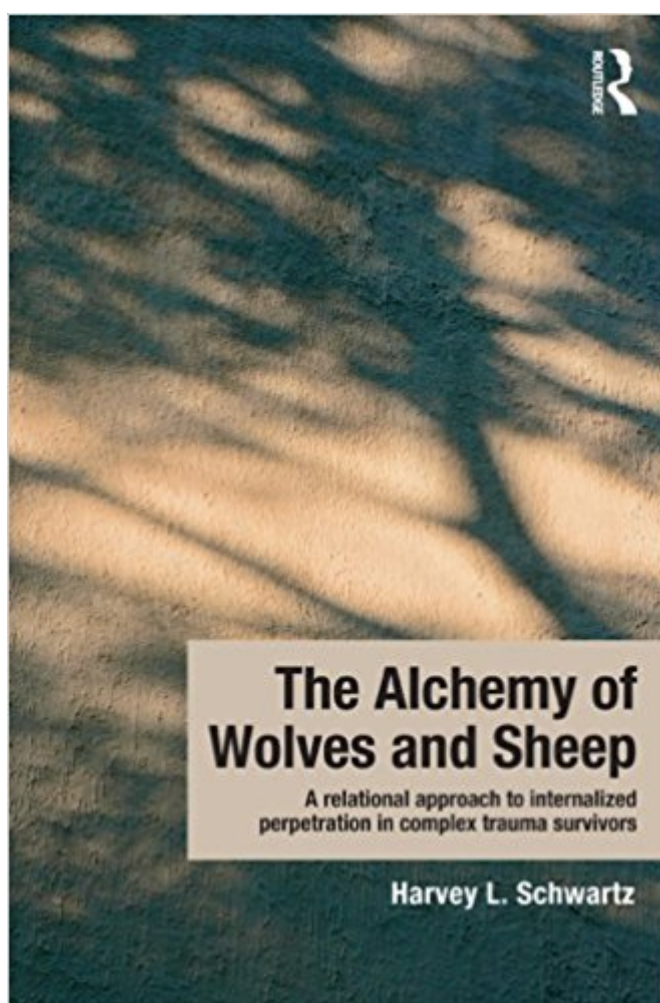


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The Alchemy Of Wolves And Sheep: A Relational Approach To Internalized Perpetration In Complex Trauma Survivors



Synopsis

The literature on psychological trauma and traumatic attachment has progressed over the past few decades, however issues of coerced and internalized perpetration have not been fully explored and deconstructed. This book presents a synthesis of relational and archetypal psychology, trauma and dissociation theory, and highly relevant child soldier literature, to offer new clinical perspectives to assist psychotherapists and trauma patients to achieve more successful therapy outcomes. The *Alchemy of Wolves and Sheep* offers instructive, cautionary and innovative therapeutic approaches to help transform the lives of survivors of complex trauma. Providing an explanation of how the effects of coerced perpetration trauma are built, and the damage done to the psyches and lives of most trauma victims, the book extends our knowledge base in a thorough deconstruction of the nature of perpetration and its effects on the psyche. Chapters include:- trauma, dissociation, and coerced perpetration- the child soldier as a model of internalized perpetration- relational concepts in the treatment of trauma and dissociative disorders- treatment trajectory- archetypal constructs as a vehicle for integration. This book provides valuable new perspectives on the psychodynamic challenges and opportunities for mental health professionals treating internalized perpetration in survivors of complex trauma, and will prove essential reading for psychotherapists, psychoanalysts and post-graduate students as well as researchers, legal scholars and policy makers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Conrad's Heart of Darkness ends, in effect, with "the horror, the horror" but this to my mind this is where Alchemy begins. This invaluable work is unflinching about the impact of the unspeakable travesties wreaked on humans by humans, and most especially on children. Often working with this now adult population it is astounding that they even continue to breathe much less survive, much less strive for recovery.

Schwartz's work offers profoundly humane guidance on recognizing and navigating the labyrinthian reworking of the sense of self to gain wholeness and connection. He explicates the pitfalls, double binds, backfiring interventions, re-enacting, chaotic layering and undoing that characterizes such work, with highly evident compassion for client and clinician alike. This is not a work for the rescuer hoping that kindness and a good protocol is enough of a restorative. This is for those whose commitment to truth and the power of connection is central. This includes noting the rupture and repair work clinicians must attend to in their own sense of self, their own commitment to integrity, and managing and meeting their own needs. I

haven't even finished the book yet! as there is so much to digest and metabolize given the richness and depth. I am so grateful to Dr. Schwartz for writing this work. Note: I learned of this book from a listserve and am renting it on Kindle until the paperback version comes out, though it is worth every penny the hardback costs!

This book is comprehensive, yet tightly organized making it a good choice for an introduction to the area of complex trauma. Complex PTSD, as opposed to simple (single incident) trauma, leads to greater pathology, more elaborate identity confusion, layers of shame and a longer course of treatment. Accordingly, a book about it benefits from solid structure in editing and clear organization. Schwartz provides that in eight chapters, each containing clinical examples that bring the clients and their experiences to life. For example the topic of treating a client who has internalized a perpetrator's violation, leading to "complex betrayal dynamics" is illustrated with the relatively simple story of a woman who secretly removed several fish from the aquarium in the community room of the treatment unit, nearly killing

them, returned them to the tank, and then raged at the staff for not doing enough to help the ill or nearly dying fish. The author's twenty five years of experience working in the field result in addressing key aspects of complex trauma thoroughly yet succinctly.

Schwartz's clinical examples give specifics while his discussion addresses the larger cultural and social context in which complex trauma occurs. These contexts range from two person relationship violation (severe child abuse) to larger contexts such as forced prostitution, gang members, trafficked persons, cult victims, and child soldiers abducted into armed cartels and other conflicts throughout the world. The immediacy and relevance of this book is reinforced by recent news coverage of kidnapped girls by Islamic extremists in northern Nigeria and abducted boys in Sudan. There are references to salient material, e.g. Joseph Campbell's *Hero With a Thousand Faces* as a description of archetypal mythology that can help clients recovering from complex trauma create meaning to heal from their experiences. Schwartz acknowledges such material and deftly explains its utility and significance, all in 230 pages, making this book an encouragingly efficient introduction to a complex topic. The first eleven pages of the book, table of contents and much of the index are available through Amazon's "Look Inside" feature. Due to the high cost of the book readers may want to consider making a request for library purchase.

Not an easy read, but it has been by far, the best ever book I've read on perpetration and internalised perpetration. (Personally, the best book EVER.. but that may just be me). I started highlighting the best bits, but soon gave up because I was highlighting the whole book. He wrote something about 'The web of complicity' and I wished everyone in the world would read it. Actually not just that bit, but that in particular. There are so many great things in this book, I recommend you just go read it!

This is a dark, tough book to read. It focusses more on the creation and control of child soldiers, but also deals with the same methods used to traffic children. The terrible truth of the real bogeymen/women will keep you up at night. The world doesn't seem to notice how widespread this is. Not a third world problem.

See my review on the Kindle edition. Excellent work.

HELP!

HELP! I am a Targeted individual and mind control victim and trying to get to Colin Ross or Robert Robert Duncan or Dr. John Hall for help. Most of my comms are blocked. Please try to get this message to them. Linda Bannon 9516599613

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