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Reviews

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FREUD SCIENTIFICALLY REAPPRAISED: TESTING THE THEORIES AND THERAPY



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Wiley. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 353 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.2in. x 0.9in.It would be impossible to tabulate fully the debt modern psychology owes to Sigmund Freud. Freuds theories of the unconscious, the role of parents in personality development, psychological defense mechanisms, psychosomatic symptoms, body image, and sexual behavior patterns, to name just a few, continue to exert a powerful influence on most contemporary schools of psychological thought. So, too, elements of the original psychoanalytic method have become a fixture in the modern psychotherapeutic armamentarium. But, as the authors of this book point out, Freuds approach was more intuitive than scientific, and his work less a rigorous system than a collection of mini-theories, some of which have stood the test of time and scientific scrutiny, while others have not. For obvious reasons, then, it is important that Freuds theories and methods be periodically reappraised and revised in light of the latest empirical findings, and that they be closely evaluated for their relevance to the contemporary psychological scene. Freud Scientifically Reappraised represents Seymour Fisher and Roger Greenbergs on-going efforts to do precisely that. Like their landmark work of the 1970s, The Scientific Credibility of Freuds Theories and Therapy, it is based on the authors critical review of all studies conducted over the past decade that either directly or indirectly tested the validity of Freuds theories of psychopathology, personality types, Oedipal dynamics, and the nature of the dream process, or the efficacy of psychoanalytic therapy. While their research focused mainly on sources in social, clinical, cognitive, developmental, physiological, and other psycho-logical schools of thought, it also extended to the recent literature in anthropology, sociology, psychiatry, psychosomatic medicine, and other outside disciplines. OF RELATED INTEREST. . . PSYCHIATRY AND CRIMINAL CULPABILITYRalph SlovenkoIn this book Ralph Slovenko, a professor of law and psychiatry,...

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