



Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child

By Alice Miller

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Originally published in 1984, *Thou Shalt Not Be Aware* explodes Freud's notions of "infantile sexuality" and helps to bring to the world's attention the brutal reality of child abuse, changing forever our thoughts of "traditional" methods of child-rearing. Dr. Miller exposes the harsh truths behind children's "fantasies" by examining case histories, works of literature, dreams, and the lives of such people as Franz Kafka, Virginia Woolf, Gustave Flaubert, and Samuel Beckett. Now with a new preface by Lloyd de Mause and a new introduction by the author, *Thou Shalt Not Be Aware* continues to bring an essential understanding to the confrontation and treatment of the devastating effects of child abuse.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Miller parts company with Freud on the origins of children's fantasies in this progressive study of repressed memory. Forget the Oedipus complex. Miller reasons that when children suffer abuse, their feelings of pain and rage have nowhere to go in a society that esteems parental power over them as a natural right. Children have no choice but to internalize the anguish, creating a wellspring of fantasy material. This book offers a fresh take on how the unconscious retains memories of childhood and, without appropriate intervention, generates emotional ills and destructive behavior.

Review

“A provocative critique of traditional therapy's view of childhood . . . This is explosive stuff. I can't imagine anyone coming away from this book without several newfound discoveries about herself and her relation to her parents.” ?*Nancy Evans, Glamour*

“*Thou Shalt Not Be Aware* is that rarest of gems, a highly creative and exciting work which throws a multifaceted light upon the development of human nature in the Western World.” ?*Ashley Montagu*

“Alice Miller is not out to 'hang the bastards,' but rather to help create a world of self-conscious and self-loving individuals who don't need, want or know how to abuse others.” ?*Sheila Koren, San Francisco Chronicle*

“It is timely. It is powerful. It is painful . . . absorbing, enlightening and provoking.” ?*Louise Lione, Charlotte Observer*

Language Notes

Text: English, German (translation)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lillian Owensby:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the publication untitled *Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child* can be good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Leonard Santiago:

This Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child is great guide for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who also always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it facts accurately using great organize word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but challenging core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child in your hand like getting the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no reserve that offer you world within ten or fifteen small right but this e-book already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt that?

Richard Dean:

In this time globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to you personally is Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child this reserve consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book suited all of you.

Eric Hodges:

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