



## Forensic Aspects of Dissociative Identity Disorder

BY ADAH SACHS AND GRAEME GALTON (EDS.)

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*Psychotherapy (MMJT) Criminal or forensic psychology (JCJ)*

This ground-breaking book examines the role of crime in the lives of people with Dissociative Identity Disorder, formerly known as Multiple Personality Disorder, a condition which appears to be caused by prolonged trauma in infancy and childhood. This trauma may be linked with crimes committed against them, crimes they have witnessed, and crimes they have committed under duress. This collection of essays by a range of distinguished international contributors explores the complex legal, ethical, moral, and clinical questions which face psychotherapists and other professionals working with people suffering from Dissociative Identity Disorder.

"This text is an absolute tour de force. It presents a wide ranging examination of the relationship between Dissociative Disorders - the effects of being exposed to a climate of extreme trauma and family violence - and forensic issues - relating to the court context. Perspectives from mental health, police, legal practitioners, and the voices of those suffering from the experiences provide important insights. The vexed issues of credibility, and responsibility for the 'en-actment' of violence perpetrated as a result of internalising 'malevolent' figures are not avoided. The field has been advanced through the work presented here."

**Dr Arnon Bentovim**

Psychiatrist, Psycho-Analyst and Family Therapist

"This is an excellent and groundbreaking collection of papers that dares to consider a subject that society finds too painful to consider. Extreme and sustained crimes against a young child, whether committed within the family or by organised groups, can have a shattering and far-reaching effect on their sense of self and capacity to form secure attachments to others. These devastating consequences are made worse if they also face public denial and disbelief when they dare to speak of the crimes against them. The international contributors to this volume have done a superb job of bringing understanding to this complex subject. A long-overdue and valuable book."

**Sir Richard Bowlby**

### The Contributors

**Joan Coleman**

**An interview with Chris Healey**

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**Graeme Galton** works in the National Health Service and in private practice. At the Parkside Clinic in London he works with individuals and groups in an NHS outpatient psychotherapy service. At the Centre for Attachment-based Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy he is a training supervisor and teaches on the clinical training programme. He is also a visiting tutor at the School of Psychotherapy and Counselling Psychology at Regent's College in London.