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| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910457035803321 |
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| Titolo | Couple Attachments : Theoretical and Clinical Studies // by Molly Ludlam |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Boca Raton, FL : , : Routledge, , [2018] ©2007 |
| ISBN | 0-429-89812-6 0-429-47335-4 1-283-06944-X 9786613069443 1-84940-580-8 |
| Edizione | [First edition.] |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (367 p.) |
| Disciplina | 616.89/1562 |
| Soggetti | Couples - Psychology - United States Couples - Counseling of - United States Couples - United States Electronic books. |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Note generali | Description based upon print version of record. |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | Cover; Copy Right; Content; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS; ABOUT THE EDITORS AND CONTRIBUTORS; PREFACE; INTRODUCTION; PART I: THE COUPLE IN THE MIND: SHAPING, PERCEIVING, AND PRESENTING THE COUPLE IDENTITY; CHAPTER ONE: Our attachment to "the couple in the mind"; CHAPTER TWO: The marriage of the Macbeths; CHAPTER THREE: Fusion, diffusion, de-fusion, confusion: exploring the anatomy of the couple psyche; PART II: THE COUPLE IN THE FAMILY: DEVELOPMENTAL AND CONTEXTUAL PERSPECTIVES CHAPTER FOUR; CHAPTER FOUR: When siblings become couples; CHAPTER FIVE: Ghosts of early sibling relationships in couples CHAPTER SIX: Dysfunctional aspects of couple relationships observed in a therapeutic group CHAPTER SEVEN: Love in a warm climate: a partnership between object relations theory and attachment theory; PART III: COUPLES IN RIVALRY: POWER IMBALANCE IN COUPLE RELATIONSHIPS; CHAPTER EIGHT: An impasse in power relationships: an |

intersubjective view in a South African socio-cultural context; CHAPTER NINE: Touching the void: the impact of psychiatric illness on the couple CHAPTER TEN: An exploration of the unconscious couple fit between the "detached" and the "adherent" narcissist: one couple's shared fear of madness CHAPTER ELEVEN: Sex as protection against intimacy and closeness: working with buyers and sellers of sex; PART IV: THE POWER OF THEORY AND RESEARCH: THE PSYCHOTHERAPIST'S AIDS TO THINKING ABOUT THE COUPLE CHAPTER TWELVE; CHAPTER TWELVE: The power of our attachment to theory-or Oedipus meets Ganesh; CHAPTER THIRTEEN: Marriage is a strange attractor: chaos theory, a paradigm shift for couple therapy CHAPTER FOURTEEN: Can attachment theory help define what is mutative in couple psychoanalytic psychotherapy? CHAPTER FIFTEEN: Attachment therapy with couples: affect regulation and dysregulation in couple relationships; effective and ineffective responses to painful states by therapists and partners; CHAPTER SIXTEEN: Psychopathology and therapeutic style: integrating object relations and attachment theory in working with borderline families

Sommario/riassunto

The couple relationship is at the centre of this book. The complex nature of the couple attachment is emphasized, drawing both on psychoanalytic concepts and on attachment theory. The chapters aim to integrate theory with practice and can be seen, both separately and together, as offering new insights into the intricate web of psychic fantasies, shared unconscious anxieties and external realities that shape the attachment between the couple. The book is divided into four sections. The first focuses on ways in which the couple identity is shaped, perceived and presented. It does this through looking at how images of the couple are formed by the couple itself, the therapist, the artist, the writer and society at large. The following section explores the impact of some of the developmental challenges that couples may encounter as part of family life, such as dealing with adolescent children, the childless older couple, and managing sibling relationships.
