

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824315803321
Autore	Armstrong David
Titolo	Social Defences Against Anxiety : Explorations in a Paradigm // David Armstrong
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Taylor and Francis, , 2018
ISBN	1-78181-470-8 0-429-91930-1 0-429-90507-6 0-367-32698-1 0-429-48030-X 1-78241-338-3
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (401 p.)
Collana	The Tavistock Clinic series
Disciplina	158.3
Soggetti	Social phobia Anxiety
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; CONTENTS; SERIES EDITOR'S PREFACE; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS; ABOUT THE EDITORS AND CONTRIBUTORS; Introduction: revisiting the paradigm; PART I Theoretical; CHAPTER ONE Obsessional-punitive defences in care systems: Menzies Lyth revisited; CHAPTER TWO Beyond identifying social defences: "working through" and lessons from people whispering; CHAPTER THREE A psycho-social perspective on social defences; CHAPTER FOUR Social defences in the information age; CHAPTER FIVE Defences against innovation: the conservation of vagueness CHAPTER SIX Reconceptualizing social defences for the purpose of organizational change: causes, consequences, and the contribution of cultural theory PART II Health and nursing; CHAPTER SEVEN Reflections on Isabel Menzies Lyth in the light of developments in nursing care; CHAPTER EIGHT "I'm beyond caring": a response to the Francis Report; CHAPTER NINE Anxiety at the front line; CHAPTER TEN A partnership of policing and health systems: containing the dynamics of sexual violence; CHAPTER ELEVEN Running the gauntlet of institutional

defence: from the prison gate to the hospital wing  
PART III The private sectorCHAPTER TWELVE Extreme work environments: beyond anxiety and social defence; CHAPTER THIRTEEN Corporate cultures and inner conflicts; CHAPTER FOURTEEN Defences against anxiety in the law; PART IV Social welfare and education; CHAPTER FIFTEEN Spotlight: defences against anxiety in contemporary human service organizations; CHAPTER SIXTEEN Still not good enough! Must try harder: an exploration of social defences in schools; CHAPTER SEVENTEEN Work discussion groups as a container for sexual anxieties in schools  
CHAPTER EIGHTEEN Social defences in nurseries and the contemporary value of the conceptCHAPTER NINETEEN Projective identification and unconscious defences against anxiety: social work education, practice learning, and the fear of failure; CHAPTER TWENTY Unconscious defences against anxiety in a Youth Offending Service; REFERENCES; INDEX

---

## Sommario/riassunto

This book revisits the theory of social systems as a defence against anxiety first set out by Elliott Jaques and Isabel Menzies Lyth in papers which they published in 1955 and 1960, and which have been influential points of reference ever since. Menzies Lyth's study of the nursing system of a general hospital, with its roots in both psychoanalysis and socio-technical systems thinking, has remained one of the most convincing demonstrations of the influence of unconscious anxieties on social behaviour, and of their effects in inducing dysfunctional defensive systems in organisations. The theory of 'social defences against anxiety' remains one of the most significant contributions of the 'Tavistock school' to the study of human relations. Contributors explore this theory as a generative paradigm, capable both of theoretical extension and of empirical application to different institutional settings. They review changes which have taken place in the theoretical and social context since these ideas were first advanced, and assess what conceptual revisions these developments require.

---