



Soul Murder: The Effects of Childhood Abuse and Deprivation

By Leonard Shengold

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Soul Murder: The Effects of Childhood Abuse and Deprivation By Leonard Shengold

To abuse or neglect a child, to deprive the child of his or her own identity and ability to experience joy in life, is to commit soul murder. Soul murder is the perpetration of brutal or subtle acts against children that result in their emotional bondage to the abuser and, finally, in their psychic and spiritual annihilation. In this compelling, disturbing, and superbly readable book, Dr. Leonard Shengold, clinical professor of psychiatry at the New York University School of Medicine, explores the devastating psychological effects of this trauma inflicted on a shocking number of children.

Drawing on a lifetime of clinical experience and wide-ranging reading in world literature, Dr. Shengold examines the ravages of soul murder in the adult lives of his patients as well as in the lives and works of such seminal writers as George Orwell, Dickens, Chekhov, and Kipling. One hopeful note in this saga of pain is that a terrible childhood can, if survived, be a source of strength, as Dr. Shengold finds in the cases of Dickens and Orwell.

Provocatively original in its approach to literature and psychology, unsettling in its vivid portrayal of the darker side of human nature, far-reaching in its conclusions, Soul Murder will stand alongside such works as Alice Miller's *The Drama of the Gifted Child* as one of the most important studies of the psyche to appear in decades.

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Editorial Review

Review

"[Soul Murder] should be required reading for all who are interested in the well-being of the world's children [Shengold's] manner is always respectful, dignified, and compassionate, and readers will find insights that are immediately useful in helping unravel the mysteries of their own, or another's behavior. This landmark work will do much to help those who need to heal"

Louise DeSalvo

Author of Virginia Woolf: The Impact of Childhood Sexual Abuse on Her Life and Work

"Leonard Shengold is one of the most civilized and humane of contemporary psychoanalytic writers Soul Murder is a work of great intellectual rigor and moral beauty"

Janet Malcolm

Author of In the Freud Archives

"A densely documented, multifaceted book... Perceptive, evocative, original." The Kirkus Reviews

From the Inside Flap

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From the Back Cover

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Christopher Watson:

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Mary Richards:

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James Brady:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Soul Murder: The Effects of Childhood Abuse and Deprivation, you could enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout people. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

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