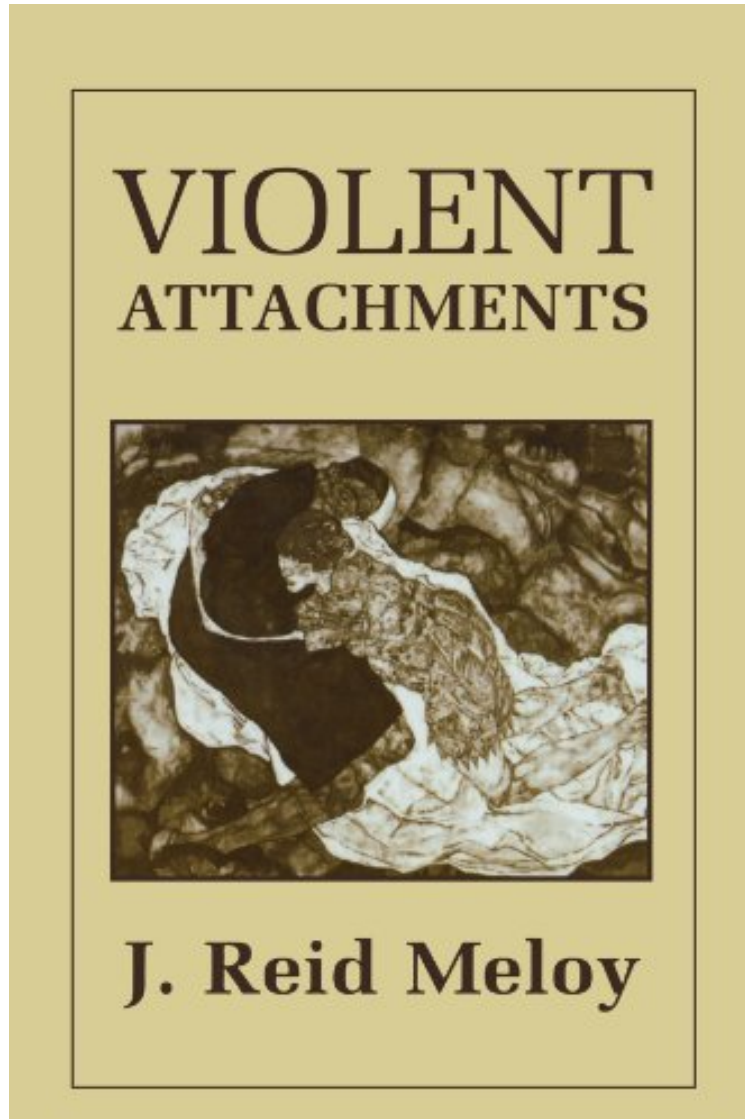


(Ebook pdf) Violent Attachments

Violent Attachments

Reid J. Meloy

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Reid J. Meloy : Violent Attachments before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Violent Attachments:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Not a Book For 'Sissies'By Phyllis Antebi Ph.DThe first review was quite thorough and for good reason; it was probably written by someone in the field. So, I'll not repeat what this first person already detailed. If you don't know what a 'violent attachment' is, you have probably not experienced one first hand That is commendable. Unfortunately, those whose early years were marked by inconsistent or contradictory patterns of parental communication, know too well about the 'bond' that Meloy refers to as the 'Violent Attachment'.

My favorite book in the self-help genre is 'Betrayal Bonds'. Violence in any form is harmful but violently attached people are a special category of dysfunction. Sometimes we use the word 'toxic' or 'addicted' or 'symbiotic' or 'pathologically enmeshed'. But, so what's in a label anyway? These relationships are to be avoided as they are in actuality, disorders of attachment. Read the 'Verbally Abusive Relationship' to grasp the emotional pattern of abuse. Most severely troubled relationships are of this nature. If you are reading Meloy for fun; Fun it isn't. If you are a professional, that's who should be reading it! Read those wonderful self-help books to extricate yourself from your pain. Better yet, seek professional help for guidance through this 'fog' of war.³² of 32 people found the following review helpful. Worth the money!By Susan SciaraThis book is excellent and well worth the money. I borrowed it from the library, renewed it and then decided that it was good enough to purchase. It gives a very comprehensive understanding of the psychology behind violent relationships. It examines stalking and erotomania, women who are attracted to violent men, and cases of, what at first appears to be, unpredictable, explosive murder. It also confirmed, what I have found in my work, and that is that there are cases of nondelusional erotomania. This book is rather technical and I'm sure it is more easily read with a background in psychology. Additionally, some of the cases are extremely graphic. For anyone who is involved in forensic psychology or psychiatry, or deals with stalking situations, I would highly recommend this as a way to gain greater understanding of the psychodynamics behind the violent behaviors.

This book is written for psychotherapists, psychologists, psychoanalysts, psychiatrists, and social workers in clinical or forensic practice. Biological foci include concepts about the deep limbic structures of the brain and the biochemistry that inhibits or disinhibits such violence. Psychological patterns include both psychoanalytic constructs and the specific psychological test data from the case studies that support such constructs. Social factors include the behavior of the victim and, in the case of assassination, the political acts that contribute to predatory violence. Dr. Meloy emphasizes the crucial need for mental health professionals to go beyond descriptive diagnoses and find the motivation and meaning of such acts. The professional's causal and purposive formulations about such violent attachments lead to more effective evaluation, treatment, and intervention, and perhaps testimony in subsequent criminal and civil litigation.

Dr. Meloy has cast a bright light into the dark world of violent individuals and those who attach themselves to them. (Larry H. Strasburger, M.D.)Violent Attachments is an extremely valuable addition to the literature on aggression. Meloy has shed light on how deranged and fantasized relationships can lead to stalking, threats, and even death. (John R. Lion, M.D.)Violent Attachments is a work of professional excellence and practical usefulness to help us better understand violent thoughts and acts. It combines careful attention to clinical detail with reader-gripping creativity. This is a book both to read quickly because it is hard to put down, and then to read again, slowly, in order to absorb and digest its breadth and depth of wisdom. (Sherry L. Skidmore, Ph.D.)With this superb volume Reid Meloy transports the reader to remote locations that lie at the extremes of human experience. At these outposts we are privy to bizarre tales that reveal the violent underpinnings of love relationships. The mental health professions are indebted to Dr. Meloy for mapping this uncharted territory and for recognizing that in studying the 'outliers,' we learn more about ourselves. (Glen O. Gabbard, M.D.)From the Back CoverIn this startling and complex investigation, Dr. Meloy begins with a simple, but profound question: why does most human violence occur between those who are emotionally involved, or more technically, within an attachment paradigm? He finds answers by applying attachment theory in the tradition of Bowlby and Ainsworth, and object relations theory in the tradition of Klein, Jacobson, Mahler, and Kernberg, to case studies of bizarre and unusual homicides. These idiographic portraits illustrate erotomaniac delusional disorder, chronic catathymia, the psychopath as love object, and assassination as a form of pathological attachment. He elucidates the ways in which certain psychodynamics that inexorably move toward murder can only exist within a fixated or regressed preoedipal personality structure. Such individuals are organized at a borderline or psychotic level, and most often utilize defenses of projection, projective identification, and omnipotent control. This book is written for psychotherapists, psychologists, psychoanalysts, psychiatrists, and social workers in clinical or forensic practice. Biological foci include concepts about the deep limbic structures of the brain and the biochemistry that inhibits or disinhibits such violence. Psychological patterns include both psychoanalytic constructs and the specific psychological test data from the case studies that support such constructs. Social factors include the behavior of the victim and, in the case of assassination, the political acts that contribute to predatory violence. Dr. Meloy emphasizes the crucial need for mental health professionals to go beyond descriptive diagnoses and find the motivation and meaning of such acts. The professional's causal and purposive formulations about such violent attachments lead to more effective evaluation, treatment, and intervention, and perhaps testimony in subsequent criminal and civil litigation.About the AuthorJ. Reid Meloy, Ph.D., is a diplomate in forensic psychology of the American Board of Professional Psychology. Chief of the Court Services, Forensic Mental Health Division for San Diego County, he also devotes time to a private civil and criminal forensic practice, research, writing, and teaching. He is an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine; a

clinical associate professor of psychology at the California School of Professional Psychology, San Diego; and an adjunct professor at the University of San Diego School of Law. Additionally, he is a Fellow of the Society for Personality Assessment and was recently elected President of the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. In 1992 he received the Distinguished Contribution to Psychology as a Profession Award from the California Psychological Association.