



Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders

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This important work illuminates the relationship between the anguish of eating disorder sufferers and the problems of ordinary women. It covers a wide variety of issues from ways in which gender may predispose women to eating disorders to the widespread cultural concerns these problems symbolize. Chapters all share three basic elements: The psychology of women is reflected in the concepts and methods described; there is an explicit commitment to political and social equality for women; and therapy is reevaluated based on an understanding of the needs of women patients and the potentially differing contributions of male and female therapists.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Approximately 90 percent of individuals who struggle with eating disorders are women. Clearly, a volume that is dedicated to a feminist understanding of these disorders is long overdue. Drs. Fallon, Katzman, and Wooley, veteran clinicians in the area have collected a distinguished group of authors who present this perspective. The chapters are all thoughtful, rigorous, and highly readable. This is a text that should be read by all clinicians interested in this area, regardless of their theoretical orientation." --Craig Johnson, Ph.D., Co-Director, Laureate Psychiatric Clinic and Hospital, Eating Disorders Program, Professor of Clinical Psychology, University of Tulsa

"These essays on women's troubled relationship to her body and food are of a high standard. They take as their starting point women's experience in the social, psychological, and political worlds. They express the pain, the rage, and the courage that is women's lives while their scholarship shows our strivings to create better understandings of our lives." --Susie Orbach, psychotherapist and writer, author of *Fat is a Feminist Issue* and *Hunger Strike: The Anorectic's Struggle as a Metaphor of Our Age*.

"In the grey stream of publications on eating disorders, this colorful book cannot be overlooked by those working with anorexic or bulimic patients. Its contents is so rich and fresh, but at the same time, provocative and even shocking, that no reader will remain 'untouched.'" --Walter Vandereycken, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Psychiatry, University of Leuven, Belgium

"The editors offer a thought-provoking and insightful overview of feminist perspectives and one rich with clinical implications. The theoretical concepts and technical issues are effectively presented, making this indispensable reading for anyone undertaking work with eating disorder patients." --Michael Strober, Ph.D., Director, UCLA Eating Disorders Program and Editor, *International Journal of Eating Disorders*

"This is a major work. A timely work. A huge contribution. A labor of both love and anger. These authors together affirm the rediscovery that life is not gender-neutral at all. Whether it has to be gender antagonistic remains an unsettled issue. This distinguished group of authors cover the gamut of important material concerning eating disorders from history, sociocultural development, moral indictment, ironic commentary, treatment, and prevention. Virtually every emotion is aroused by this volume. Some wonderfully outrageous chapters are included such as 'The Female Therapist as Outlaw'. 'Alternatives in Obesity Treatment Beside Dieting' fills a necessary void. It is time to accept diversity in weights as we do diversity in almost every other area of life. This is a serious and monumental work, but that the same time eminently readable, almost a page-turner. Agree with it. Disagree with it. Love it. Hate it. Feel justified. Feel guilty. But read it." --Arnold E. Andersen, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, University of Iowa

"An excellent, holistic approach to a multi-faceted issue." --Rena Pallof, John F. Kennedy University, Graduate School for Holistic Studies, Orinda, CA; Course: Psychology of Nutrition

"A thorough and clear statement of what constitutes feminist approaches to eating disorders." --Janet L. Etzi, Immaculata College

"An exceptionally important contribution.... A landmark work [that] deserves to be widely read and debated by professional workers and students in the field. Lucidly written and meticulously edited, its contents will undoubtedly be discussed for many years to come."

(*Eating Disorders* 1996-10-03)

"This book...is an important milestone in the field....The entire book is essential reading for graduate students, researchers, faculty, professionals, and practitioners."

(*Choice* 1996-10-03)

"Exciting and unusual are adjectives that spring to mind when describing this book...The book is fun to read and yet at the end you are left with plenty to think about. It will be required reading for anyone interested in how social and cultural factors shape the individual."

(*Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* 1996-10-03)

From the Back Cover

Advancing the literature on a critical topic, this important new work illuminates the relationship between the anguish of eating disorder sufferers and the problems of ordinary women. The book covers a wide variety of issues - from ways in which gender may predispose women to eating disorders to the widespread cultural concerns these problems symbolize. Throughout, the psychology of women is reflected in the concepts and methods described; there is an explicit commitment to political and social equality for women; and therapy is reevaluated based on an understanding of the needs of women patients and the potentially differing contributions of male and female therapists. Providing valuable insights into the critical problem of eating disorders, this book is essential reading for clinicians and researchers alike. Also, by examining many of the ways in which women are affected by and respond to society's gender politics, the book may be used as a text in women's studies courses.

About the Author

Patricia Fallon, Ph.D., is a psychologist in private practice and a clinical faculty member, University of Washington, Seattle. She serves on the editorial board of *Eating Disorders: The Journal of Treatment & Prevention* and speaks frequently at conferences on feminist theory and treatment of eating disorders. She is co-author of *Bulimia: A Systems Approach to Treatment* and author of articles in the areas of eating disorders, family therapy, and abuse.

Melanie A. Katzman, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist in private practice in New York City and serves on the faculty of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. She is on the editorial board of *Eating Disorders: The Journal of Treatment & Prevention* and lectures frequently to national audiences. The author of articles and book chapters on eating disorders, women's issues, and group therapy, she is the co-author of two books, *Treating Bulimia: Psycho-Educational Approach* and *You Can't Have Your Cake and Eat It Too*.

Susan C. Wooley, Ph.D., is a Professor of Psychology and Co-founder and Co-Director of the Eating Disorders Clinic in the Psychiatry Department, University of Cincinnati Medical College. Widely published in the fields of obesity, eating disorders, and body image, she is especially noted for her feminist orientation to these topics. A consulting editor to a number of journals, who serves on the editorial boards of the *International Journal of Eating Disorders* and *Eating Disorders: The Journal of Treatment and Prevention*, she is a frequent presenter at national conferences and is currently nearing completion of her own book, *Screaming in a Different Language*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Brown:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be up-date about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these keep up with the era which can be always change and progress. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what one you should start with. This Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Tara Thornton:

The guide with title Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders possesses a lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. This kind of book exist new expertise the information that exist in this publication represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. This specific book will bring you with new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

Jessica Bradburn:

Typically the book Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders has a lot of information on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was published by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research prior to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after perusing this book.

Harold Scott:

The book untitled Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains the woman idea with easy technique. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read this. The book was compiled by famous author. The author gives you in the new age of literary works. You can read this book because you can please read on your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book within anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can open up their official web-site and order it. Have a nice learn.

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