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Psychology After Psychoanalysis: Psychosocial Studies and Beyond

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Author: Ian Parker

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Psychology After Psychoanalysis is the fourth text in Parker's Psychology After Critique series, where he discusses how the turn to language led to the formation of new critical psychological approaches such as discourse analysis and psychoanalysis. As with the other books in this series, he provides an introductory overview to the book as well as summary reflections before each chapter. The main areas of debate covered in this book include: the formation of psychoanalysis in psychology following the 'crisis', how psychoanalytic arguments inform psychosocial research and finally, consideration of the relationship between individuals and society. What I particularly liked about this book was the account of how psychoanalysis 'sits' within contemporary culture in relation to clinical work, research and everyday life. As with other work produced by Parker, the focus of his critique is clearly politically focused and concerned with the need for change not only in psychology but also in society. This book should be of interest to undergraduates, postgraduates, researchers and practitioners in areas including psychology, counselling, psychosocial studies and various mental health work.