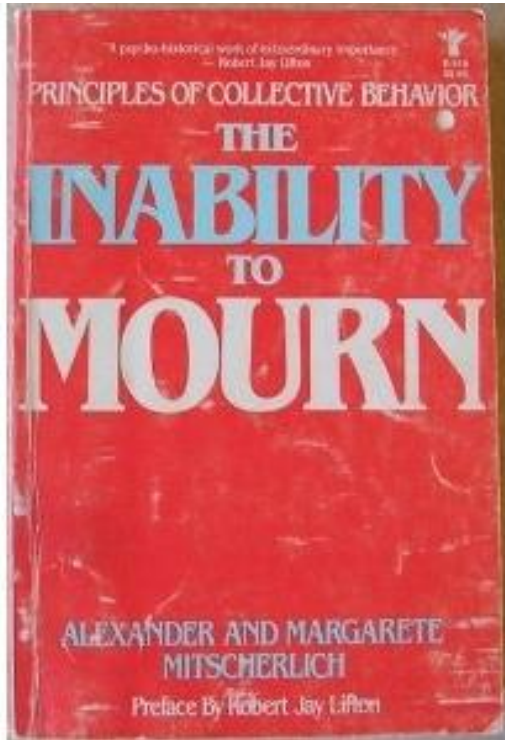


An Inability to Mourn: racism, shame and grief



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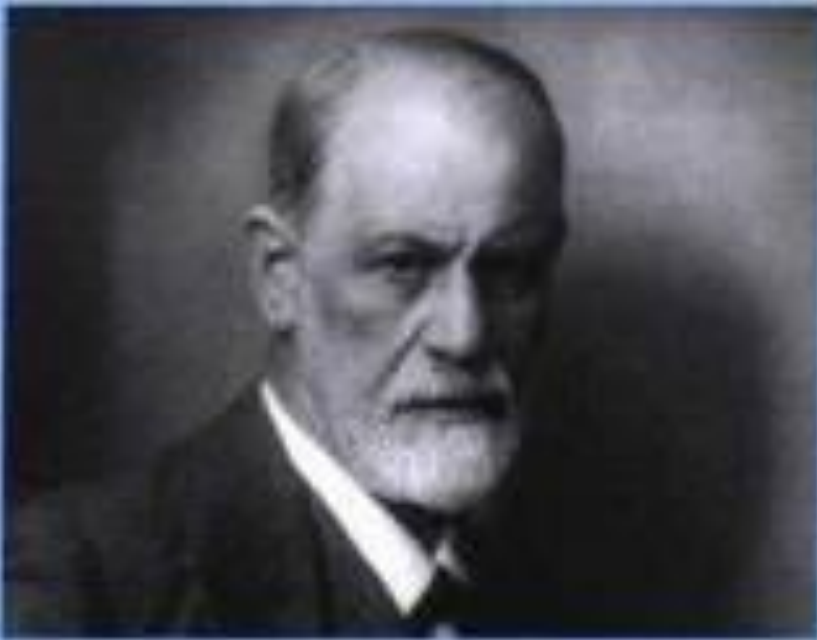


University of Essex

On Freud's "Mourning and Melancholia"

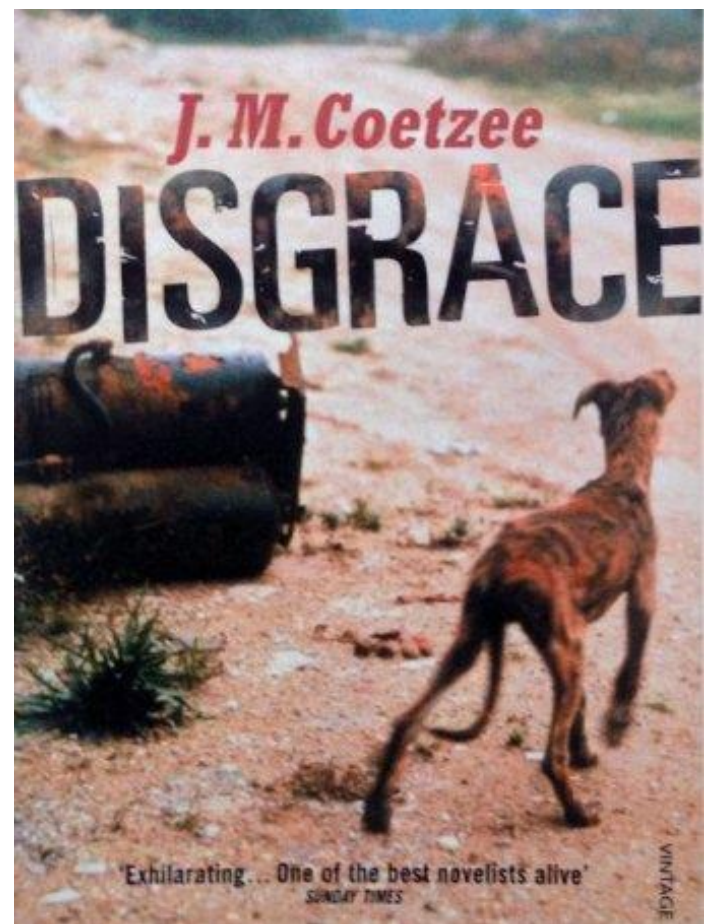
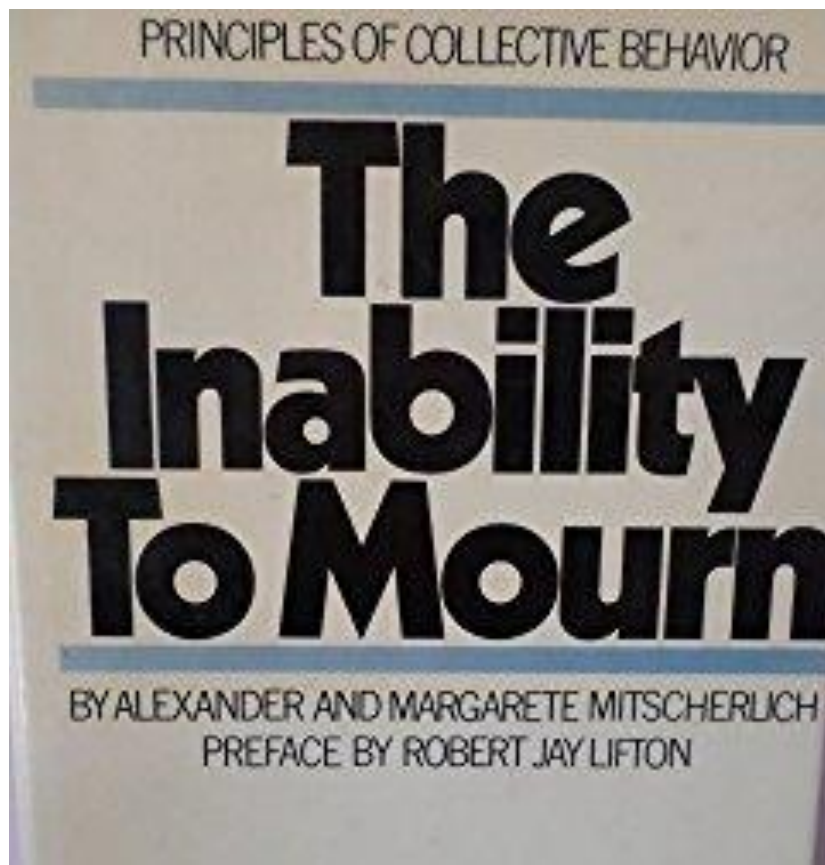
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Foreword by
Ethel Spector Person



Mourning is regularly the reaction to the loss of a loved person, or to the loss of some abstraction which has taken the place of one, such as one's country, liberty, an ideal, and so on.

(Freud, 1917, p.243)



It should be noted, moreover, that defense against a collectively incurred guilt is easy when it, too, is carried out collectively, since the degree of guilt is then determined by universal consensus. Normally, a guilt-laden individual is isolated from society; but in a group he does not endure this fate, being merely a sinner among sinners.





bell hooks (1952-



Dislocation / Shame

“Surrender refers to recognition... The outcome of this process is not simply reparation or restoration of the Object, but love, the sense of discovering the ‘Other’.” (Benjamin, 2004)



Respect, Recognition and Reciprocity



Narrative representations of international immersive experiences

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“This is all so beautiful”

“I said to someone later in the day, ‘I feel so silly that I said that.’ ... But I felt almost like, ‘Oh my gosh, you weird, white American girl. You’re coming ... making their life into some grand experience for me. Like, I get to leave, and that’s their life. And, I – I meant it as a compliment, but I realized after I said it, like, that could have been interpreted very differently. It’s, like, ‘This is so beautiful, you guys – you live in these red houses.’ And, they’re, like, “These are dirt houses, we would much rather live in,” you know. I don’t know. I have no idea. But I – I had a lot of feelings after that came out of my mouth. ... I don’t know ... if he thinks that it’s sort of shallow that I don’t see what else is going on there. Like, there was a lot that’s not beautiful there.”



Analysis



Bringing experiences into the light:
translating learning into wisdom;
practice into development;
shame into conversation

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