



The Trauma Controversy: Philosophical and Interdisciplinary Dialogues (SUNY series in the Philosophy of the Social Sciences)

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Provides multiple and accessible perspectives on trauma both as a condition and as a cultural phenomenon.

More than a psychiatric or spiritual condition, trauma is an experience that exceeds the capacity of language to fix and settle it. As trauma crosses the lives of individuals and erupts into cultural and historical collectivities, it invites comparison with psychological dilemmas. But how best to compare individual and social trauma? What is the relationship between physical trauma and psychic trauma? How do cultures recover from trauma? To address these and other questions, the essays in *The Trauma Controversy* plumb the significance of various notions of trauma from a variety of perspectives and disciplines. Adopting psychoanalytic, clinical, historical, anthropological, and philosophical frameworks as well as engaging the ideas of a diverse range of thinkers, including Merleau-Ponty, Freud, Foucault, Heidegger, and Kristeva, *The Trauma Controversy* takes a productive and important step in advancing our understanding of trauma.

“Undoubtedly, this volume of essays offers a very interesting and thought-provoking look at trauma research, revealing and discussing the ostensibly resolved problems, which are regarded here from different and unexpected points of view.” — *H-Net Reviews (H-Ideas)*

“...a highly thought-provoking collection, with a broad scope, which is destined to become a classic ... It will be required reading for those working in Holocaust and Trauma Studies.” — *The Year's Work in Critical and Cultural Theory*

“*The Trauma Controversy* is a remarkable book in that it is not merely a collection of discrete and unrelated essays by significant individual players. Rather, the editors have taken care to cultivate a genuine conversation between various contributors in the volume.” — John J. Thatamanil, author of *The Immanent Divine: God, Creation, and the Human Predicament*

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