Ethnicity And Family Therapy: Second Edition

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This widely used clinical resource and text was among the first to demonstrate the crucial significance of a family’s cultural system in therapeutic work. Chapters are designed to enhance the cultural competence of clinicians working with members of over 40 different ethnic groups in the United States, including families of European, Latino, Asian, African, Middle Eastern, and Native American heritage. Ethnic profiles and case studies are presented not as definitive or stereotypical descriptions, but rather as informative frameworks for equipping practitioners with a sense of the cultural issues they may encounter in practice.

Book Information

Hardcover: 717 pages
Publisher: The Guilford Press; 2 edition (August 15, 1996)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0898629594
Product Dimensions: 9.6 x 6.1 x 1.6 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds
Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #92,954 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #85 in Â Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Mental Health > Compulsive Behavior #264 in Â Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Psychology > Psychopathology #322 in Â Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Psychiatry

Customer Reviews

"I have used the first edition since it was published. The revised and expanded edition makes it even more valuable." --Trevor Watts, PhD, Canisius College, Religious Studies
"I have used the first edition for years. This second edition is a wonderful expansion of the content." --William R. McPeak, PhD, Syracuse University School of Social Work
"Ethnicity and Family Therapy has long been an indispensable resource for teaching about the centrality of culture in the helping process. Now McGoldrick and Giordano have given teachers and trainers of future clinicians and their students an even richer compendium in the second edition of their work. This latest volume recognizes even more fully the wondrous diversity of families who come to the attention of helping professionals. It greatly expands understanding of what it means to be of Asian, Latin, or African descent, of the bountiful variety of cultures which spring from a common ancestry. It enables practitioners to
examine their own culturally-determined values and beliefs and gain new recognition of their presence in each therapeutic encounter. The second edition of Ethnicity and Family Therapy adds both breadth and depth to the knowledge base for culturally competent practice." --Martha Morrison Dore, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work

"The second edition of Ethnicity & Family Therapy reinforces the preeminence of this publication as the first resource on culture in the field of family therapy. It is more than comprehensive with its breadth of coverage about cultural heritage. It achieves clarity and sensitivity in what is complex and delicate. Ultimately, Ethnicity & Family Therapy speaks to the family therapist in language that is both culturally informed and therapeutically sophisticated." --Harry J. Aponte, ACSW

"This is an excellent book that should be read by all therapists working with different ethnic populations. It is insightful, thoughtful, and filled with important information. I highly recommend it." --Alvin F. Poussaint, MD, Harvard Medical School; Judge Baker Children's Center, Boston, MA

"The first edition of Ethnicity and Family Therapy was an eye-opener for many family therapists. The second edition is even more elaborate that the first one. The editors succeeded in creating a broader and more in depth description of the topic of ethnicity, highlighting specific problems of a great variety of groups of people who try to accommodate to their new culture. This book is not only of great importance for American therapists, it should be read by others as well, because many Western-European countries meet the same questions with immigration. 'All of us,' according to the editors, 'are migrants, moving between our ancestors’ traditions, the worlds we inhabit and the world we will leave to those who come after us.'" --Max J. van Trommel, MD, PhD, Psychiatrist

"This book is a marvelous probe of how combining cultural differences and human similarities creates a balanced new entity, thus transforming potential danger of stereotyping in creative new therapeutic ideas and interventions. I found it subtle and inspiring." --Cornelia M. Jessurun, MSW, family therapist, Amsterdam

"The comprehensive coverage of this book and the complex ethnicities of its authorship, will make it an essential work of reference for all family therapy training; as well as for all practitioners whose knowledge of our changing world needs to keep pace with the multiple realities now entering the consulting room. A useful format balances a broad overview addressing the culture and history of particular regions of the world, which precedes sets of chapters covering discrete ethnicities as these have developed within those regions. The particularities of history are related to patterns of migration and to the challenges and difficulties different peoples will have addressed in different periods in facing the economic, social, and cultural adaptations to life in the USA. While these adaptations would be different in the UK and West Europe, the approach of the book is to contextualize families within their cultures both before and following migration so that aspects of the
work remains highly relevant to UK and West European readers. What I have read of the stories of ethnicity showed that this was a book that would offer new meanings to my understanding of many aspects of the lives of families I see each week and would enable me to develop my therapeutic curiosity in better informed ways. It's also helped my mother understand her brother after 70-odd years (see Greek families)." --Gill Gorell Barnes

"This is the first time I have used the latest edition of Ethnicity and Family Therapy. Like the older edition this textbook continues to be outstanding. I have found the text extremely effective in my graduate course in educational administration, 'Administration and Supervision of Staff Personnel.' At a period in our history when our schools are faced with the greatest diversity of students, this text should be required reading and a source book for all educational administrators." --Frank P. Merlo, Graduate Professor of Education, Montclair State University

Monica McGoldrick, ACSW, PhD (h.c.), is the cofounder and Director of the Family Institute of New Jersey. An Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Visiting Professor at Fordham University School of Social Service, she also serves on the faculty of the Family Institute of Westchester. She has received a number awards for her work, including an honorary doctorate from Smith College for her many contributions to the field and the annual award of the American Family Therapy Academy for Distinguished Contribution to Family Therapy, Theory, and Practice. Known internationally for her many books, she has spoken widely on a variety of topics including culture, class, gender, the family life cycle, grief and loss, genograms, and family relationships.

Joe Giordano, M.S.W., is Director of Ethnicity and Mental Health Associates and was formerly Director of the American Jewish Committee’s Center on Ethnicity, Behavior, and Communications, where he conducted pioneering studies on the psychological nature of ethnic identity and group behavior. Widely published, his articles on ethnicity, family, and the media have appeared in national magazines and newspapers. He also served as host on Proud to Be Me, a PBS television program for adolescents on race and ethnic identity, and is currently producing the radio series Growing Up in America--Many Families, Many Cultures.

John K. Pearce, M.D., is Medical Director of the Island Counseling Center at Martha’s Vineyard in Massachusetts. Widely published, he is President of the International Association for the Study of Comparative Psychology and serves on the Advisory Editorial Board of an Internet journal, the International Journal of Psychopathology, Psychopharmacology, and Psychotherapy.

Great book, very readable. Was assigned this in my Family Therapy class in my Masters course.
Got a lot out of discovering the specifics of counseling other cultures. I much preferred this to Sue & Sue.

This book is a great reference to have on hand. There is a new version. This one is worth the price.

OK, this book wouldn't seem especially fun to read, and I'll admit that a counselor friend had to recommend it to me, but I find it simply fascinating. As I read through the chapters about my family's heritage, I really found it compelling that many of the the behaviors and values that I take for granted are not simply from my family, but are in large measure common to my ethnicity. Then, as I read about the heritage of my fiancee's family, it really put things into perspective for me. Behaviors that I might have found rude or offensive in my cultural framework have a perfectly natural, and honorable, root in theirs. If understanding is the key to acceptance, this book really helped me understand and communicate much better, and begin to accept and live within different cultures. This book gives an excellent framework to explain how different ethnicitys come to value different things. Highly recommended.

The first edition was the beat. It was honest. The newer edition sacrificed truth for "niceness". For instance I'm English heritage aNd I learned a lot from the first edition that was useful, this edition did not have that.

Gives clear insight into cultural nuances.

Fascinating and practical book with applications far beyond the therapeutic in a global and interconnected world. If you deal with people from a variety of cultures, get this book.

Great book a must read for therapist!


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