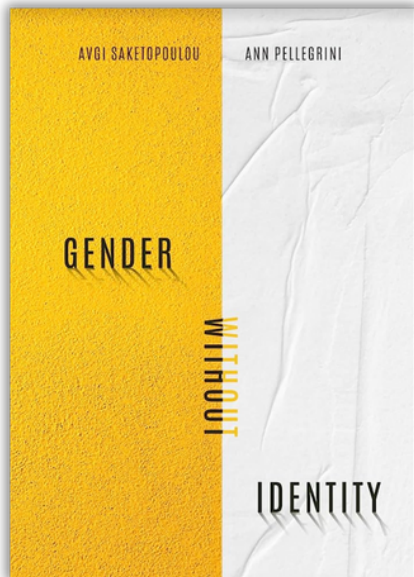


GENDER WITHOUT IDENTITY



Gender Without Identity offers an innovative and at times unsettling theory of gender formation. Rooted in the metapsychology of Jean Laplanche and in conversation with bold work in queer and trans studies, Avgi Saketopoulou and Ann Pellegrini jettison “core gender identity” to propose, instead, that gender is something all subjects acquire -- and that trauma sometimes has a share in that acquisition. Conceptualizing trauma alongside diverse genders and sexualities is thus not about invalidating transness and queerness, but about illuminating their textures to enable their flourishing.

Written for readers both in and outside psychoanalysis, *Gender Without Identity* argues for the ethical urgency of recognizing that wounding experiences and traumatic legacies may be spun into gender. Such “spinning” involves self-theorizations that do not proceed from a centered self, but are nevertheless critical to psychic autonomy. Saketopoulou and Pellegrini draw on these ideas to offer clinical resources for working with gender complexity and for complexifying (what is seen as) gender normativity.

"*Gender Without Identity* will be an enduring classic in the best sense: as a source-object, necessarily other, a cause for (re)translation, both within psychoanalysis and in the disciplines with which it is in generative conversation."

—**Mitchell Wilson**, Editor of the
*Journal of the American
Psychoanalytic Association*

"At the heart of this book is an ethical affirmation of the self-theorizations through which individuals bind and own this inherited debris."

—**Kadji Amin**, Author of *Disturbing Attachments: Genet, Modern Pederasty, and Queer History*

"*Gender Without Identity* is an important book, a mandate for the next generation of trans studies and a hard-hitting strike against the old ways of psychoanalytically theorizing non-normative genders."

—**Griffin Hansbury**,
Psychoanalyst and Author of
Feral City



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