



The Healing Power of Play: Working with Abused Children

Eliana Gil

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This book describes how therapists can both facilitate constructive play therapy and intervene in posttraumatic play to help children who have been traumatized by abuse or neglect achieve a positive resolution. Traditional techniques of play therapy are reviewed for their application to this population. Throughout, numerous therapeutic aids are described to enhance the child's capacity to communicate verbally or symbolically. To help clinicians translate theory into daily practice, the book presents six detailed clinical vignettes that offer step-by-step guidelines for assessment and intervention in different situations of abuse or neglect.

The Healing Power of Play: Working with Abused Children Details

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From Reader Review The Healing Power of Play: Working with Abused Children for online ebook

Laurelina says

Gil is a pioneer in Play Therapy techniques especially dealing with the non-directives forms of therapy. I thought this book was interesting especially for those that are looking to learn more about play and how it could help traumatized children project their true potential.

Deborah Woods says

Great book to re-read. Always relevant.

Emily says

Pretty good. Read it for class. Has some basic info about play therapy with abused children, then several case studies. Most of these were pretty depressing, yet hopeful.

krissy says

Helpful. Good case studies.

Lindsay says

A good how-to read for the burgeoning clinical psychotherapist who doesn't know what the hell to do, or where to begin, should they have a child client who has been a victim of abuse. The reader will encounter a plethora of case examples and receive a solid grounding in "what to look for" when scanning for potential child abuse.

Carol says

Great refresher in play therapy strategies. Nicely organized research, good play tips, materials suggestions and some case studies that elucidate possibilities while in session with kids who have suffered complex trauma.

Mindy says

It took me months to finish this because I got bored halfway through. For someone who is familiar with play therapy, the first part is too general and unhelpful. I regained interest in the second half for the case studies.

Ruby Ann says

This is the book I would recommend to anyone who is curious about play therapy. I like that Gil offer a concise history and explanation of the different theories and practices that inform play therapy. Her explanation of the difference between directive and non-directive play therapy is especially helpful. The case presentations at the end show how the theory can be best applied in therapeutic sessions. From now on, I know I'll be thinking "WWEGD?" (What Would Eliana Gil Do?)

Jessica says

I first read this book as an undergrad when I was writing my Senior Thesis on working with children of Domestic Violence. I recently read it again, or, parts of it, when I started my work as a school based therapist. This book is great at helping to understand the meaning and the metaphor behind kids' play and drawings, a must for anyone working with children therapeutically. It current sits on my desk at work for a quick reference.

Joan Friedrich says

Highly recommended for counselors/social workers/psychologists intending to provide play therapy for children.

Katie says

Really great for anyone working with kids. Especially Social Workers. Clinical examples are very real, but really great learning opportunities.
