



# Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child

By Alice Miller



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Originally published in 1984, *Thou Shalt Not Be Aware* explodes Freud's notions of "infantile sexuality" and helps to bring to the world's attention the brutal reality of child abuse, changing forever our thoughts of "traditional" methods of child-rearing. Dr. Miller exposes the harsh truths behind children's "fantasies" by examining case histories, works of literature, dreams, and the lives of such people as Franz Kafka, Virginia Woolf, Gustave Flaubert, and Samuel Beckett. Now with a new preface by Lloyd de Mause and a new introduction by the author, *Thou Shalt Not Be Aware* continues to bring an essential understanding to the confrontation and treatment of the devastating effects of child abuse.



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## **Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child** By Alice Miller Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Miller parts company with Freud on the origins of children's fantasies in this progressive study of repressed memory. Forget the Oedipus complex. Miller reasons that when children suffer abuse, their feelings of pain and rage have nowhere to go in a society that esteems parental power over them as a natural right. Children have no choice but to internalize the anguish, creating a wellspring of fantasy material. This book offers a fresh take on how the unconscious retains memories of childhood and, without appropriate intervention, generates emotional ills and destructive behavior.

#### Review

"A provocative critique of traditional therapy's view of childhood . . . This is explosive stuff. I can't imagine anyone coming away from this book without several newfound discoveries about herself and her relation to her parents." ?Nancy Evans, *Glamour*

"*Thou Shalt Not Be Aware* is that rarest of gems, a highly creative and exciting work which throws a multifaceted light upon the development of human nature in the Western World." ?Ashley Montagu

"Alice Miller is not out to 'hang the bastards,' but rather to help create a world of self-conscious and self-loving individuals who don't need, want or know how to abuse others." ?Sheila Koren, *San Francisco Chronicle*

"It is timely. It is powerful. It is painful . . . absorbing, enlightening and provoking." ?Louise Lione, *Charlotte Observer*

#### Language Notes

Text: English, German (translation)

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### Steven Bemis:

The book *Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child* has a lot details on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was authored by the very famous author. Tom makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after looking over this book.

##### Anthony Hanna:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or 15 minute in your morning to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill actually analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book than can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because this time you only find book that need more time to be read. *Thou Shalt*

Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child can be your answer as it can be read by an individual who have those short extra time problems.

**Keith Devine:**

This Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child is new way for you who has attention to look for some information since it relief your hunger associated with. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know otherwise you who still having bit of digest in reading this Thou Shalt Not Be Aware: Society's Betrayal of the Child can be the light food in your case because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get simply by anyone. These books produce itself in the form which can be reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in guide form make them feel tired even dizzy this publication is the answer. So you cannot find any in reading a guide especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for anyone. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book type for your better life and knowledge.

**Anthony Jarrard:**

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