

# The Processes of Defense: Trauma, Drives, and Reality A New Synthesis

Joseph Fernando

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In this direct and scholarly book, Dr. Joseph Fernando provides the first in-depth exploration and up-to-date
revision of the psychoanalytic theory of defenses since Anna Freud's 1936 classic, The Ego and the
Mechanisms of Defense. The workings of three basic forms of defense\_repression, denial, and posttraumatic defenses\_are clearly described and illustrated with examples from Dr. Fernando's clinical practice.
While comprehensive and authoritative in its coverage of defenses, the book is also highly original and
clinically relevant, as Fernando introduces and illustrates new concepts including the zero process (a form of
mental functioning related to trauma), contrast defenses (a type of denial defense that leads to repetition),
and compound defenses (defenses formed by the tight melding of two or more basic defenses). This is a book
not only of innovation but also of integration. Classical psychoanalytic concepts are integrated with new
ideas related to current concerns with trauma, denial, and narcissism, and theoretical explications are
integrated with practical advice about the handling of different defenses and clinical situations. This book
will appeal to both beginners and seasoned clinicians and theoreticians, as well as to anyone interested in
psychoanalytic thought.



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