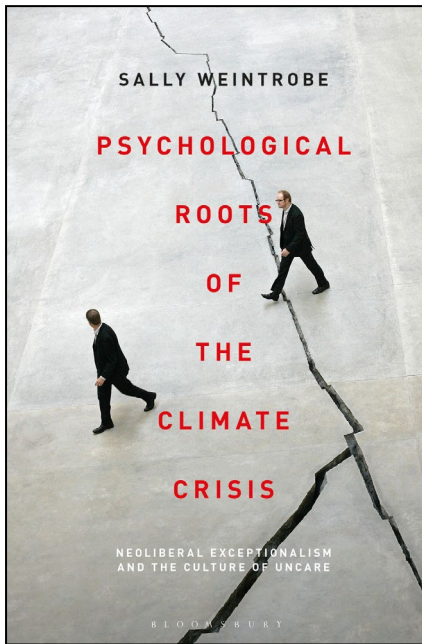


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Psychological Roots of the Climate Crisis

Neoliberal Exceptionalism and the Culture of Uncare

Sally Weintrobe

"The problem of climate change has, for a generation, produced nothing approaching an adequate response – particularly among those in the wealthy west, many of whom see themselves as triumphalist technocrats capable of fixing anything at all. In her brilliant, dizzyingly insightful book, Sally Weintrobe explains why. We are, she writes, living in Wonderland – though not for long."

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"Sally Weintrobe uses her psychoanalytic mind and her sociocultural experience to create a brilliant presentation of intersecting historical, political, economic and psychological determinants of the climate crisis. Her own care for the safety of the planet – and its human and animal inhabitants – permeates the aspect of this book that inspires the reader to face the crisis and become an agent of change."

Harriet L. Wolfe, M.D., President-elect, International Psychoanalytical Association, and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of California San Francisco, USA

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Psychological Roots of the Climate Crisis tells the story of a fundamental fight between a caring and an uncaring imagination. It helps us to recognise the uncaring imagination in politics, in culture - for example in the writings of Ayn Rand - and also in ourselves.

Sally Weintrobe argues that achieving the shift to greater care requires us to stop colluding with Exceptionalism, which is based on a rigid mindset and is largely responsible for the climate crisis. People in this mindset believe they are entitled to have the lion's share and can 'rearrange' reality with magical omnipotent thinking whenever reality limits their felt entitlements. While the subject of this book is grim, Weintrobe manages to strike a tone that is reflective, ironic, light and at times humorous. It is free of jargon, and full of examples from history, culture, literature, poetry, everyday life and the author's experience as a psychoanalyst.

Sally Weintrobe is a Fellow of The British Psychoanalytical Society, a founder member of the Climate Psychology Alliance and she Chairs the International Psychoanalytic Association's (IPA's) Committee on Climate. In 2021 she won an award from the IPA for her work on climate. Her past publications include, as editor and contributor, *Engaging with Climate Change*, short-listed in 2014 for the International Gradiva Prize for contributions to psychoanalysis.

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