

Review of: "A Philosophical Analysis of Sartre's Critique of Freud's Depth-psychological Account of Self-Deception"

Henrieta Șerban

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The article titled „A philosophical analysis of Sartre's Critique of Freud's Depth-psychological Account of Self-Deception” addresses the concept of self-deception as proposed by S. Freud and Jean-Paul Sartre. Sartre's critique of Freud's depth-psychological account of self-deception is very well approached with accent on Sartre's interest in conscious awareness in the dynamics of coexistence of mutually incompatible beliefs.

The analysis is very clear, accurate and concise. It is interesting and precise. The relations between depth-psychology, behavior and theory of mind is a very good part of the study.

However, for readers who did not study both Sartre and Freud to detail, more arguments first hand from the authors in discussion would have been more illuminating. A special paragraph on the different philosophical traditions and presenting the different terminologies of the two authors (Sartre and Freud) - from the very beginning - would have been salutary. At some level it is amazing that there is some sort of critical "dialogue" between the views of Sartre and Freud at all.

The paradox of individuals believing and non-believing (at the same time) is, in my view, the most interesting aspect of this discussion and should have been emphasized a bit more.

About the notion of self-deception treated on the basis of interpersonal deception: the author of the study should have addressed this “tradition” in dealing with the subject of self-deception although this would have meant a slight detour from the analysis of Sartre's critique of Freud. The fact that individuals hide motivations from themselves may be explanatory for the paradoxes of self-deception. More interestingly, above Freud's "dynamically unconscious" mechanisms, aren't there more complex aspects, even beyond those included in Sartre's „bad faith” approach? But the conclusion addresses such concerns and brings up-to-date the theoretical inquiry raised by Sartre's and Freud's views.

The article is an accomplishment worth reading.