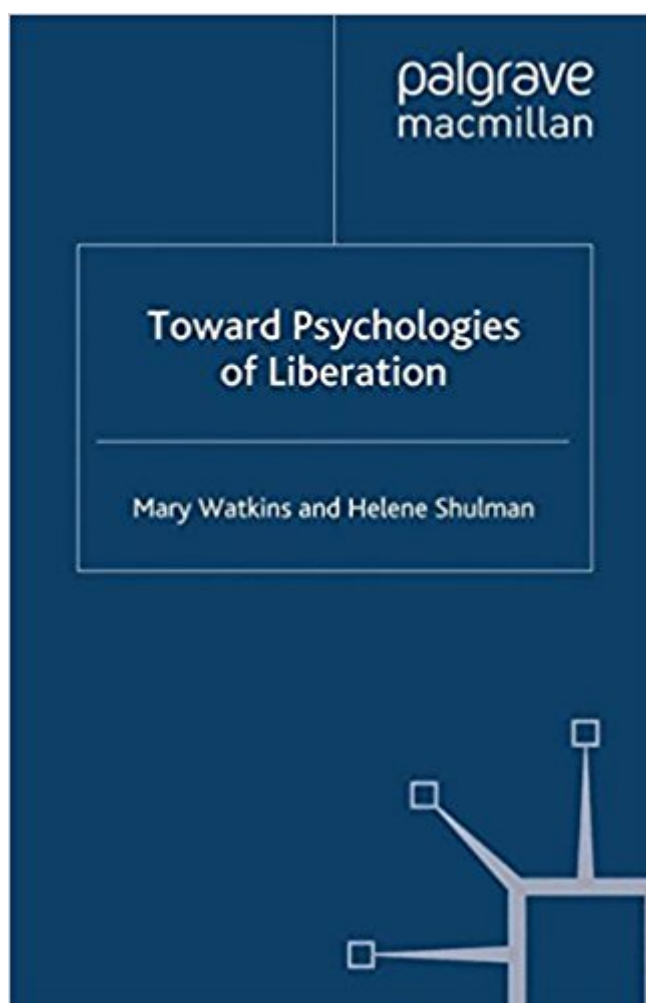


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# Toward Psychologies Of Liberation (Critical Theory And Practice In Psychology And The Human Sciences)



## Synopsis

Understanding that the psychological well-being of individuals is inextricably linked to the health of their communities, environments, and cultures, the authors propose a radical interdisciplinary reorientation of psychology to create participatory and dialogical spaces for critical understanding and creative restoration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'This landmark book takes us on an unforgettable journey across disciplines, countries, spiritualities, and techniques to teach us twenty-first century psychologies of liberation. Authors Watkins and Shulman transform the discipline of psychology, showing us its connections to all disciplines concerned with liberating the imagination. Across international fields of difference, these authors never give up the prize: social and psychic emancipation. In doing so, they define what 'decoloniality' means for the twenty-first century.' - Chela Sandoval, Associate Professor of Liberation Philosophy, Chair, Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA. 'A scholarly, heartfelt, and desperately needed re-visioning of psychology.' - Dr Craig Chalquist, JFK University, USA 'One cannot help but recommend this text with utmost enthusiasm. Although not by any means a summary of its plural subject, *Toward Psychologies of Liberation* can be read as multi-layered digest of the major psychological, philosophical, and theological roots of this movement, as well as a review of some of the major problems tackled by

theorists and practitioners within the tradition. Watkins & Shulman have crafted for us a major tour de force, broad in scope and encyclopedic in nature.' - Journal of Religion and Health 'Toward Psychologies of Liberation' provides us with a brilliant and timely compilation, in the mode of an appreciative evaluation, of these diverse strands that might be woven into the fabric of critical and progressive social science...This is a path-breaking book, and an enormous service to our scholarly community in the extensiveness and sophistication of its coverage...It is a remarkable work which deserves widespread attention.' - Barnaby B. Barratt, Psychoanalysis, Culture and Society '[A] carefully crafted, and in places truly inspiring, piece of work...It is my hope that Watkins and Shulman's book opens up the space for multi-perspective stories, anecdotes and reflective practice of liberatory psychology. of its successes as well as its challenges' - Subjectivity

MARY WATKINS is core faculty at Pacifica Graduate Institute, USA, the author of *Waking Dreams*, *Invisible Guests: The Development of Imaginal Dialogues*, co-author of *Talking with Young Children about Adoption*, and co-editor of *Psychology and the Promotion of Peace*. She works with groups to promote peacebuilding and social justice, teaching dialogical and participatory methodologies. HELENE SHULMAN has taught cultural studies, critical race theory, and depth psychologies at several universities in the United States including Sonoma State, St. Lawrence University, and Pacifica Graduate Institute. She is a community activist, Jungian analyst, and workshop leader in liberation arts and psychologies. She has written several articles and book chapters on these subjects, and a monograph, *Living at the Edge of Chaos: Complex Systems in Culture and Psyche*.

Transformative... Watkins & Shulman should be read by all students of psychology who want to wake up to the possibility that psychology can contribute to global solutions, not problems. Psychology has the potential to unlock world peace, human compassion, and social justice, but we need a new voice, and *Toward Psychologies of Liberation* is a tremendous start to a better world. I used this book in a senior-level course where students analyzed interview transcripts of victims and advocates in Juarez, Mexico. Watkins and Shulman was a means of bringing students a sense of empowerment over meaningless violence. Bringing students outside the bubble, liberation psychology gives students a foundation to start anew... to think of the world as a place for potential and change. Thanks to this book, my students are transformed into critical thinkers, global thinkers, and individuals who understand their potential to create a just world. This book is my favorite gift for my favorite friends.

This is hands down the best book I have ever read. Watkins and Shulman, here, succinctly articulate the most profound challenges of living facing the world's peoples in the west today. They are a voice for the voiceless and a light in the darkness that is western militarism, consumerism, postcolonial reigns terror. Please, order this book. Order this book for your daughters and your sons. Order this book for humanity. Order this book and read deeply, read authentically, read for your children and your grandchildren. Send copies to politicians and shut down academics who've given up hope. Send copies to your bosses, your employees, your clients, and your therapist. Let these women's voices speak right into your heart. You won't be sorry. I promise you.

This is an invaluable resource that pulls together a wide, and sometimes disconnected, body of scholarship and activism around liberation psychology and social justice issues. It is easy to read, passionately written, and both clear and nuanced in its articulation of concepts and paradigms. I highly recommend it to anyone trying to understand more about this subject, regardless of how well-versed you already are (or aren't)!

Eye opening.

One of my favorite books to read. I have given several as gifts. It is written in a very approachable way, yet opens up opportunity for deeply critical thinking and conversation.

Great book

transformative but dense

A great book I will go back to. There is a lot to learn on how to bring positive change globally. Great examples are written in it.

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