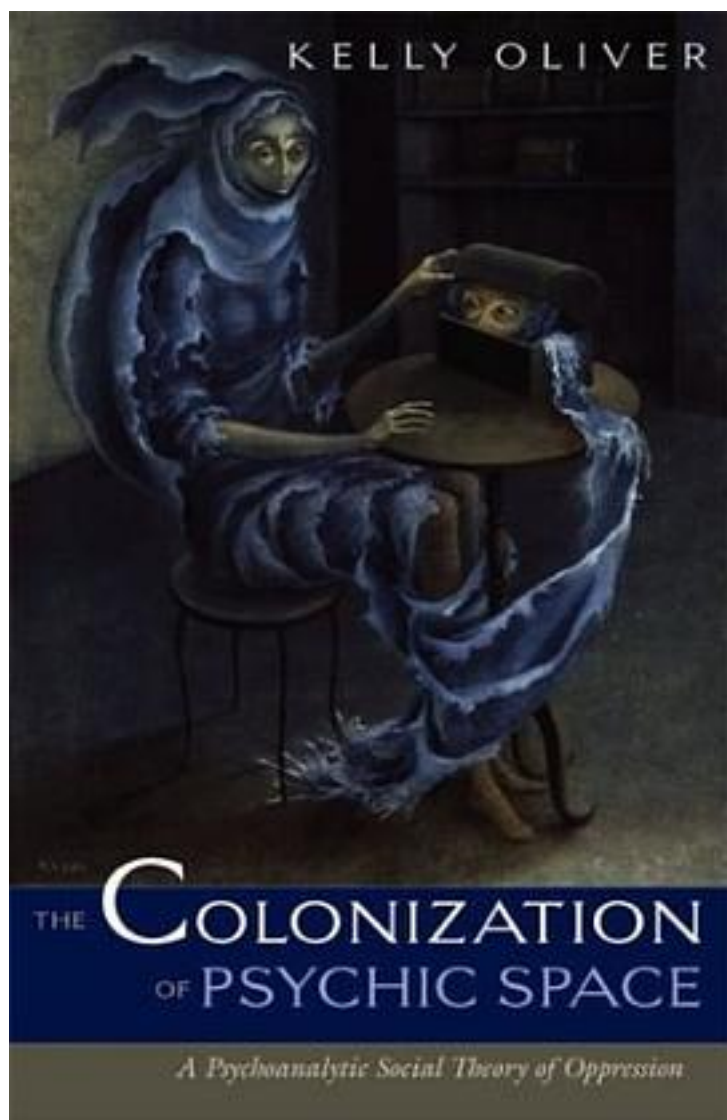


The Colonization Of Psychic Space



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We are, Julia Kristeva writes, strangers to ourselves; and indeed much of contemporary theory describes the human condition as one of alienation. Eloquently arguing that we cannot explain the development of individuality or subjectivity apart from its social context, Kelly Oliver makes a powerful case for recognizing the social aspects of alienation and the psychic aspects of oppression. Oliver's work shows how existentialist and psychoanalytic notions of alienation cover up specific forms of racist and sexist alienation that serve as the underside of the human condition. She reveals that such notions are actually symptomatic of the subject's anxiety and guilt over the oppression on which his privileged position rests. Not only does such alienation not embody subjectivity and humanity, it in fact "undermines them. Asserting that sublimation and forgiveness--and not alienation--constitute subjectivity, Oliver explores the complex ways in which the alienation unique to oppression leads to depression, shame, anger, or violence; and how these affects can be transformed into agency, individuality, solidarity, and community.

作者介绍:

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标签

psychoanalysis

Kristeva

Fanon

评论

Fanon and psychoanalysis. Race is the by-product of the transference of affects in the colonization of the psyche and the body schema. Modernization is a forming colonial pathology that results in the exclusive and foreclosing European humanism on the one hand, and the abject of the colonized psyche on the other.

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书评

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