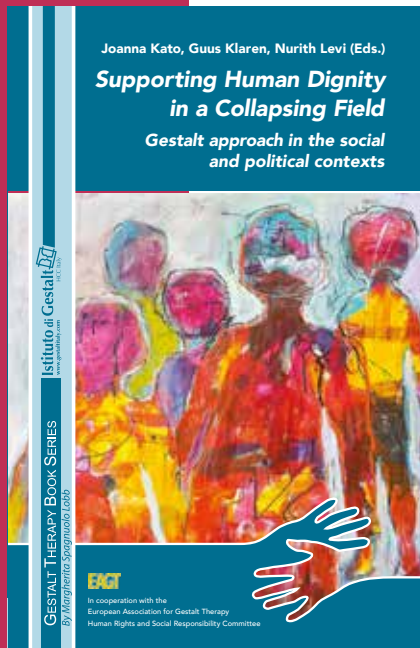


# SUPPORTING HUMAN DIGNITY IN A COLLAPSING FIELD

*Gestalt approach in the social and political contexts*

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[...] this book [...] aims to support the growth of the Gestalt therapy community. The book includes contributions from many colleagues who are active in social interventions, and who are a part of the Human Dignity & Social Responsibility Committee of the EAGT. To give voice to this work, to make all Gestalt psychotherapists aware of the professional experience and the work of these colleagues is a way of us all growing together, a way of sharing the human suffering they experience every day with other colleagues from around the globe, who will be enriched, both personally and professionally, by this vitality at their contact boundary. If psychopathology for Gestalt therapy is conceived as a desensitisation at the contact boundary, then this book revitalises our contact boundary with extreme situations which we cannot avoid in our life and our profession. To work on traumas is a needed development of our profession, but this has to include the context the person lives in (it's different to work with traumatised people in traumatising environments than in safe ones) and a knowledge of what is culturally and politically possible in that environment.

*From Introductory Note by Margherita Spagnuolo Lobb and Jeff Allison*

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The Istituto di Gestalt series of Gestalt therapy books emerges from the ground of a growing interest in theory, research and clinical practice in the Gestalt community. The members of the Scientific and Editorial Boards have been committed for many years to the process of supporting research and publications in our field: through this series we want to offer our colleagues internationally the richness of the current trends in Gestalt therapy theory and practice, underpinned by research. The goal of this series is to develop the original principles in hermeneutic terms: to articulate a relational perspective, namely a phenomenological, aesthetic, field-oriented approach to psychotherapy. It is also intended to help professions and to support a solid development and dialogue of Gestalt therapy with other psychotherapeutic methods.

The series includes original books specifically created for it, as well as translations of volumes originally published in other languages. We hope that our editorial effort will support the growth of the Gestalt therapy community; a dialogue with other modalities and disciplines; and new developments in research, clinics and other fields where Gestalt therapy theory can be applied (e.g., organizations, education, political and social critique and movements).

We would like to dedicate this Gestalt Therapy Book Series to all our Masters and colleagues who have sown fruitful seeds in our minds and hearts.

Introductory Note, by Margherita Spagnuolo Lobb and Jeff Allison

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