

## THE STRUGGLE FOR IDENTITY IN A MARKET-BASED SOCIETY







## PAUL VERHAEGHE

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What about Me?: the struggle for identity in a market-based society



According to current thinking, anyone who fails to succeed need to have something wrong with them. Today's pay-for-efficiency mentality is turning organizations such as colleges, universities, and hospitals into businesses ? even folks are being produced to think of themselves as one-person enterprises. People are lonelier than previously. The pressure to accomplish and become happy is going for a heavy toll, producing a warped watch of the self, disorientation, and despair. It turns out that who we are is, as always, dependant on the context in which we live., Paul Verhaeghe's priority is how social switch has resulted in this psychic crisis and altered the way we think about ourselves. In What about Me? He investigates the effects of 30 years of neoliberalism, free-market forces, privatisation, and the partnership between our engineered society and individual identity. Like is increasingly hard to find, and we battle to business lead meaningful lives. From his clinical knowledge as a psychotherapist, Verhaeghe displays the profound influence that social change is having on mental wellness, even affecting the type of the disorders from which we suffer. But his book ends on a note of careful optimism. Can we once again become masters of our fate?



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. Speaking from his perspective as a psychologist, the writer investigates the formation of identity through the use of the Lacanian notion of the 'mirror'; i.. we become what we perceive others thinking we have to be. Thus, the formation of identification is inextricably bound with ethical notions. Contrasting the perfect situation in which identification is formed with market society, the writer finds that the values and ethics behind the global force of market culture (which conceal under a supposed economic rationality) imply that a different procedure for identity formation is taking place, and had taken place during the last 30 years. Surprisingly original This book is merely what the physician ordered. I'd been looking forward to a publication like that. he regards the neo-liberal orthodoxy as an ideology which includes harmful consequences on the identification of the individual. His material is well-argued, and his obvious compassion is highly attractive, however the book is a little uneven in areas. Also, he will not go into significant amounts of depth in relation to his theorizing of mental malfunction. It would have already been great to witness a more immediate linkage between Freudian/Lacanian notions of ideology, unconscious fantasy etc to the problem of identity-construction, but this is more of a personal peeve. Since it stands, the publication reads such as a critique of capitalist culture written from a psychologicallyeducated observer, that is probably how it was intended. Among the best books I've read this year!!!!!!!Highly recommended for all those interested in understanding the malaise most of us feel in our socity. One of the best books I've read this year! Great lecture by Dr. Verhaeghe on topics such as for example post-modern society, meritocracy, morality and values, neo-liberalism, for-income education and health program, and psychodiagnostics! Dr. Verhaeghe makes a compelling argument by stressing his thesis on the advancement of identity through relational societal ideals. attempts to unravel most of the . It's an excellent learning lead for a novelist in psychology.. Without taking a holier-than-thou treat it outlines faults in both extremes and how exactly we ourselves may move to right some of these problems. But I'd been apprehensive before I began reading it: what if it was filled with banalities and commonplaces? This reserve doesn't answer all the questions and is certainly not proclaiming to take action but, it is an excellent acknowledgement of our current environment and the consequences that it is wearing us. I might provide him another try now. I am left feeling comforted in the knowledge that I am not alone and anxious about how exactly I am going to continue my path onwards. This book met all expectations!A fabulous book that goes on a trip of discovery of the personal vs society and tradition. Sometimes hard to digest but from my perspective, so true.! Five Stars Although steeped in psychoanalysis, I came across this book very profound in attempting to understand adolescence. This book identifies & I would recommend this reading to anyone who is looking to for revolutionary ideals against the Neo-Liberal Reich of our moments!e.Capitalism and identity-formation Short read by a Belgian psychoanalyst, employed in the Lacanian framework, on the relationship between identification and neo-liberal market culture. This book identifies & The sense that "things (government, religious beliefs, ethics etc) aren't functioning any longer" are tackled in a reasoned method. attempts to unravel many of the sources of the perceptive person's cognitive dissonance with the modern world. Well worth reading Excellant book! Highly recommended The title is misleading and probably should have stayed IDENTITY as it was meant too. Idea provoking and balanced view I have for a long-period felt at chances with my environment however, not known why or how to proceed. Must read A must read. The rest of the book is an investigation into what exactly these hidden ideals are, and how the formation of individual identity is accordingly affected by this new transformation in the overall game, concluding with his assessment and suggestion of what needs to be done. The author, like Freud (an identification he makes apparent in his introduction), will not shy away from a obvious ethical standpoint; I enjoyed the balanced arguments and the use of great supporting acknowledgements although, I have always discovered Michel Foucault hard going . Imagine if the author would present implausible solutions? Etc. However I was positively surprised by the scientific underpinnings of this work, by very clear logical explanations and by

how its articles resonated with my emotions about what's happening right now to a person in society. Sometimes it appeared to me a bit moralizing though, consequently four stars. Needed Good reflexion on actual society. About every one of us in a competitive an materialistic culture seeking for identity. Helpful and clear book Extremely helpful to know very well what is the Lacanian theory today. I highly recommend taking the chance to learn this book.



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