

Wilhelm Reich

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Date of death: 11/03/1957 | **Date of birth:** 03/24/1897
Occupation or position: Psychiatrist

, and one of the most radical figures in the history of psychiatry. He was the author of several influential

and Freud a member of the second generation of psychoanalysts after

analysis (24 March 1897 – 3 November 1957) was an Austrian **Wilhelm Reich**

The Ego and the Mechanisms of

read His work on character contributed to the development of [2] (1936), *Revolution The Sexual* (1933), and *ychology of Fascism The Mass Ps* (1933), *Analysis Character* books and essays, most notably

. His writing

and therapy in's **Arthur Janov** and

in at the police. *The Mass Psychology of Fascism* in Paris and Berlin, students scrawled his name on walls and threw copies of

therapy General S 1933 influenced generations of intellectuals: during the

Paris Italy psychoanalytic work (1936), and his idea of muscular armour – the expression of the personality in the way the body moves – shaped innovations such as *Defence*

1. For Stirner and Landauer, see Danto 2007, p. 308, footnote 60.

2. That he was one of the most radical figures in psychiatry, see Sheppard 1973.

Danto 2007, p. 43: "Wilhelm Reich, the second generation psychoanalyst perhaps most often associated with political radicalism ..."

Turner 2011, p. 114: "[Reich's mobile clinic was] perhaps the most radical, politically engaged psychoanalytic enterprise to date."

For the publication and significance of *The Mass Psychology of Fascism* and *Character Analysis*, see Sharaf 1994, pp. 163–164, 168.

For *Character Analysis* being an important contribution to psychoanalytic theory, see:

Young-Bruehl 2008, p. 157: "Reich, a year and a half younger than Anna Freud, was the youngest instructor at the Training Institute, where his classes on psychoanalytic technique, later presented in a book called *Character Analysis*, were crucial to his whole group of contemporaries."

Sterba 1982, p. 35: "This book [*Character Analysis*] serves even today as an excellent introduction to psychoanalytic technique. In my opinion, Reich's understanding of and technical approach to resistance prepared the way for Anna Freud's *Ego and the Mechanisms of Defence* (1936)."

Guntrip 1961, p. 105: "... the two important books of the middle 1930s, *Character Analysis* (1935) by Wilhelm Reich and *The Ego and the Mechanisms of Defence* (1936) by Anna Freud."

For more on the influence of *The Mass Psychology of Fascism*, see Kirkpatrick 1947, Burgess 1947; Bendix 1947; and Turner 2011, p. 152.

3. For Anna Freud, see Bugental, Schneider and Pierson 2001, p. 14: "Anna Freud's work on the ego

and the mechanisms of defense developed from Reich's early research (A. Freud, 1936/1948)."
For Perls, Lowen and Janov, see Sharaf 1994, p. 4.

For the students, see Elkind, 18 April 1971; and Turner 2011, pp. 13-14.

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