

This thesis deals with the development of defense mechanisms, as shaped by its psychoanalytic origins to contemporary psychology. Next, deals with stressful situations that are seen as the most common possible causes underlying defense mechanisms currently. The work is framed within the school context. It focuses on primary school pupils and frequent stressful situations related to the school environment. In its conclusion, the work focuses on the overall approach to children when they are already in a stressful situation, highlights the ways in these times, children pointing in the right direction and how to approach them if they already apply some defense. Work sums up the issue of defense mechanisms, trying to modernize this concept based on the history and highlights its possible rife among pupils in practice.