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Main content

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The Creation of Psychopharmacology by David Healy

Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 2002. 479 pp. \$39.95, 27.50 [pounds sterling], 39.95 [euro], ISBN 0-674-00619-4

In the last century, psychopharmacology produced the first effective drug treatments for schizophrenia and other mental illnesses and contributed greatly to the development of hypotheses about the biological basis of mood and anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, and other psychoses. David Healy, a distinguished but controversial psychiatrist and historian (1) at the University of Wales College of Medicine, describes these developments, especially those concerning antipsychotic drugs, in *The Creation of Psychopharmacology*. Furthermore, he prophesies that current research linking psychopharmacology to pharmacogenomics and brain imaging will lead to control of the major mental illnesses, so that psychopharmacology and psychiatry can and will turn their attention to the treatment of personality disorders and self-improvement in normal individuals. What many will find most provocative about this book and its predecessor, *The Antidepressant Era* (2), is the recommendation that powerful psychotropic drugs, including neuroleptics such as chlorpromazine, could or should be available without prescription.

The Creation of Psychopharmacology begins with an accurate and lively history of the treatment of psychosis and other deviant behaviors in the 18th and 19th centuries. After discussing the 1952 discovery of chlorpromazine (the first antipsychotic drug, which arguably launched the modern era of psychopharmacology), Healy offers a less detailed account of the remarkable advances which followed from its discovery and initial clinical trials. The author pays special homage to the 18th-century philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who was an exhibitionist in his youth and died in the throes of a psychotic disorder with paranoid features. He argued for the perfectibility of mankind, for trust in instinctual knowledge of what is in one's best interest, and against the corrupt and corrupting social order. His blend of Enlightenment and Romantic ideas exerts a powerful influence on Healy's conceptions and conclusions about psychopharmacology and on his prescription for the future. In the author's interpretation, "the antipsychotic story shows very clearly that the clash of a rationalist psychiatry with a romantic antipsychiatry [by which Healy refers to the writings of R. D. Laing, Thomas Szasz, and Michel Foucault, among others] did not lead to the triumph of...

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The Marketing of Madness is the definitive documentary on the psychiatric drugging industry. Here is the real story of the high income partnership between psychiatry and drug companies that has created an \$80 billion psychotropic drug profit centre. But appearances are deceiving. How valid are psychiatrists' diagnoses – and how safe are their drugs? Digging deep beneath the corporate veneer, this three-part documentary exposes the truth behind the slick marketing schemes and scientific deceit that conceal dangerous and often deadly sales campaigns. In this film you'll discover that Man Depression -- Bipolar disorder (manic-depressive illness) -- Schizophrenia -- Alzheimer's disease and other dementing illnesses -- Anxiety disorders -- Abuse of alcohol and other sedatives -- Abuse of stimulant, hallucinogenic, and narcotic drugs -- Antisocial personality and somatoform disorder -- Sex, syphilis, and AIDS -- The causes of mental illness. Drug companies would bankroll psychiatry and rescue it. These companies would pour money into professional conferences, journals, research, etc. In return, they wanted "science" that would promote mental disease as a biological fact, a gateway into the drugs. In fact, Dr. Keith is so confident that there is NO other book like this on the market and he's dedicating his life to sharing with this with 1 million people with outstanding results. But you'll have to act quickly. This new book is a special exclusive edition, with a limited print run. It won't last long! Dr. Keith has produced his masterwork REAL SECRETS TO Psychiatry Without Drugs with some trepidation. For sure the drug industry is not going to like it, exposing as it does all their lies and cover-ups. Mending Minds book. Read reviews from world's largest community for readers. Today's psychiatry is having a profound impact on patients and their familie... Goodreads helps you keep track of books you want to read. Start by marking "Mending Minds: A Guide to the New Psychiatry of Depression, Anxiety, and Other Serious Mental Disorders" as Want to Read: Want to Read saving... Want to Read.