

Selling Sickness How The Worlds Biggest Pharmaceutical Companies Are Turning Us All Into Patients

“Alan Cassels strips layers of expectation, hype, jargon, false-starts, and conflicts of interest off the medical screening mantra.” —Nortin M. Hadler, author of *Worried Sick*

Why wouldn't you want to be screened to see if you're at risk for cancer, heart disease, or another potentially lethal condition? After all, better safe than sorry. Right? Not so fast, says Alan Cassels. His *Seeking Sickness* takes us inside the world of medical screening, where well-meaning practitioners and a profit-motivated industry offer to save our lives by exploiting our fears. He writes that promoters of screening overpromise on its benefits and downplay its harms, which can range from the merely annoying to the life threatening. If you're facing a screening test for breast or prostate cancer, high cholesterol, or low testosterone, someone is about to turn you into a patient. You need to ask yourself one simple question: Am I ready for all the things that could go wrong? “With engaging clarity backed by academic rigor, Cassels discusses a variety of popular investigational procedures . . . an excellent way to start the important process of self-education.” —Quill & Quire “Smartly written and very readable.” —Brian Goldman, MD, author of *The Secret Language of Doctors* “Cassels tackles this touchy

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topic, looking at it test by test. His overarching message is that modern medicine has 'overpromised' with claims that screening will save our lives. He contends that with the lack of hard evidence on benefits, the evidence of harm from by such screening, as well as the multi-billion dollar interests at stake, we should approach this kind of screening with great precaution." —Canadian Women's Health Network

Most people shun the word conspiracy. The media has made it seem like all conspiracies are theories and that anyone who discusses them is a tinfoil hat. Yet anyone who has studied history or business knows that conspiracies are a part of the human experience. Once we realize this, the question arises: what conspiracies are occurring in our time that are significant? What perceptions of the world do we hold that are incorrect? Western civilization, although technologically advanced beyond the days of a Flat Earth or geocentric universe, is blind to it's own corruptions. Our governing practices were established over a century ago - and have evolved very little. If we could apply the success we've had in science, technology, and understanding the human condition to the way we govern our society, what would our world look like? Be forewarned. The journey starts off frightfully dark and many people do not have the emotional fortitude to face the real demons. But if you make the journey it is very rewarding to realize that we have at our disposal the means to create a remarkable world for the next generation if we so choose. This book blends business management strategies leveraged by technology to address the inherent problems in governments.

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commentary on bioethics. It takes readers with little or no prior knowledge of ethics, economics or medicine quickly and easily into advanced debates and discussions about the causes and consequences of health and illness around the world.

A detailed history of the use of amphetamines follows the rise, fall, and surprising resurgence of the popular drug in America since they were marketed as the original antidepressant in the 1930s.

The phenomenal growth of global pharmaceutical sales and the quest for innovation are driving an unprecedented search for human test subjects, particularly in middle- and low-income countries. Our hope for medical progress increasingly depends on the willingness of the world's poor to participate in clinical drug trials. While these experiments often provide those in need with vital and previously unattainable medical resources, the outsourcing and offshoring of trials also create new problems. In this groundbreaking book, anthropologist Adriana Petryna takes us deep into the clinical trials industry as it brings together players separated by vast economic and cultural differences. Moving between corporate and scientific offices in the United States and research and public health sites in Poland and Brazil, *When Experiments Travel* documents the complex ways that commercial medical science, with all its benefits and risks, is being integrated into local health systems and emerging drug markets. Providing a unique perspective on globalized clinical trials, *When Experiments Travel* raises central questions: Are such trials exploitative or are they social goods? How are

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experiments controlled and how is drug safety ensured? And do these experiments help or harm public health in the countries where they are conducted? Empirically rich and theoretically innovative, the book shows that neither the language of coercion nor that of rational choice fully captures the range of situations and value systems at work in medical experiments today. When Experiments Travel challenges conventional understandings of the ethics and politics of transnational science and changes the way we think about global medicine and the new infrastructures of our lives.

This incisive look at how propaganda has infiltrated the helping professions is essential reading for social workers, psychologists, and other helping professionals, and is an excellent supplement to courses on critical thinking and introduction to practice.

The recent financial crisis has once again seen John Kenneth Galbraith return to the bestseller lists. Yet, despite the continued popular success of his works, Galbraith's contribution to economic theory is rarely recognized by today's economists. This book redresses the balance by providing an introductory and sympathetic discussion of Galbraith's theoretical contributions, introducing the reader to his economics and his broader vision of the economic process. The book highlights and explains key features of Galbraith's economic thought, including his penetrating critique of society, his distinctive methodology, his specific brand of Keynesianism and his original - but largely ignored - contribution to the theory of the firm. It also presents, for the first time, a detailed examination of Galbraith's monetary economics and revisits his analysis of

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financial euphoria. This unique work seeks to rehabilitate Galbraith's contribution, setting out several directions for possible future research in the Galbraithian tradition. By any standard, the pharmaceutical industry's history has been a successful one. In addition to its profits and shareholder dividends, it has been seen by investors as relatively low risk and, largely, counter-cyclical to stock market trends. However, that important contribution appears to be petering out, with significant global implications for employees, shareholders, governments and patients. This is not just caused by the economic crisis. Long before this, several distinct but related streams of evidence emerged that now point to the stalling of the pharmaceutical industry. The Future of Pharma examines the causes of the industry's potential decline and offers a convincing and rigorous analysis of the options open to it. What emerges is a landscape defined, on the one hand, by the changing marketplace of mass-market consumers, institutional healthcare systems and wealthy individuals; and on the other by the alternate sources of commercial value - innovative therapies; super-efficient processes, supply chains and operations; and closer customer relations and increasingly tailored health services. The challenges to the pharmaceutical industry now and in the medium and long-term are very significant. Brian Smith's highly readable research findings are a wake-up call and a first step forward for anyone concerned with the future of the industry; whether executive, customer, policymaker or investor.

Killer Commodities enters the increasingly heated debate regarding consumer culture

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with a critical examination of the relationship between corporate production of goods for profit and for public health. This collection analyzes the nature and public health impact of a wide range of dangerous commercial products from around the world, and it addresses the question of how policies should be changed to better protect the public, workers, and the environment.

In western countries, paths to modernity created socio-cultural conditions conducive to the dissemination of the language of nerves. This book examines historically the ways in which neurosis became a contagious diagnosis in Sweden, attaining the status of a national malady.

As our knowledge of the human body becomes ever more exact, scientists have made remarkable leaps forward in many fields. Yet for one question that many of us would like answered--What causes the body to burn fat?--we find all sorts of confusing claims. Since we know so much about how our body works, can't science tell us the answer? As it turns out, science already has. I have spent over ten years reading thousands of fat-loss studies. Not theories promoted by diet gurus. Only the proven data. My investigation uncovered all kinds of scientific findings: - Studies stating how certain foods cripple our ability to burn fat - Scientists showing how to burn fat while eating more food - Researchers revealing how to get all the benefits of traditional exercise in a tenth of the time - Physiologists finding out how eating less sets us up to gain fat in the long run - Doctors discussing how a few minutes of a new form of exercise immunizes

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us against fat gain - Endocrinologists explaining how we fix the underlying condition causing us to gain fat We deserve to know the proven facts about fat loss, but who has time to read tens of thousands of pages of scientific studies? The study took me more than a decade. It should not take you that long because the facts have been summarized in this book. They have also been simplified, so anyone who wants to lose weight can understand them. Make no mistake. Tons of clinical studies have shown the best way to trim off those unwanted pounds. It is time to stop listening to marketing myths about how to lose weight. We tried it. It failed. It is time to move on to a smarter science of slim. ?Proven and practical.? ?Dr. Theodoros Kelesidis Harvard & UCLA Medical Schools ?The latest and best scientific research.? ?Dr. John J. Ratey Harvard Medical School ?An important piece of work.? ?Dr. Anthony Accurso Johns Hopkins ?Smart and health promoting.? ?Dr. JoAnn E. Manson Harvard Medical School ?The last diet book you will ever need to buy.? ?Dr. Larry Dossey Medical City Dallas Hospital ?Revolutionary, surprising, and scientifically sound.? ?Dr. Jan Friden University of Gothenburg ?Compelling, simple, and practical.? ?Dr. Steve Yeaman Newcastle University ?Stimulating and provocative.? ?Dr. Soren Toubro University of Copenhagen ?Amazing and important research.? ?Dr. Wayne Westcott Quincy College ?Brilliant. Will end your confusion once and for all.? ?Dr. William Davis Fellowship of the American College of Cardiology, author of Wheat Belly ?Bailor's work stands alone.? ?Maik Wiedenbach World Cup and Olympic Athlete ?Bailor opens the black

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box of fat loss and makes it simple for you to explore the facts.? ?Joel Harper Dr. Oz Show fitness expert ?A groundbreaking paradigm shift. It gets results and changes lives.? ?Jade Teta, ND, CSCS author of The New ME Diet

Today, when many parents seem reluctant to have their children vaccinated, even with long proven medications, the Salk vaccine trial, which enrolled millions of healthy children to test an unproven medical intervention, seems nothing short of astonishing. In *Selling Science*, medical historian Stephen E. Mawdsley recounts the untold story of the first large clinical trial to control polio using healthy children—55,000 healthy children—revealing how this long-forgotten incident cleared the path for Salk’s later trial. Mawdsley describes how, in the early 1950s, Dr. William Hammon and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis launched a pioneering medical experiment on a previously untried scale. Conducted on over 55,000 healthy children in Texas, Utah, Iowa, and Nebraska, this landmark study assessed the safety and effectiveness of a blood component, gamma globulin, to prevent paralytic polio. The value of the proposed experiment was questioned by many prominent health professionals as it harbored potential health risks, but as Mawdsley points out, compromise and coercion moved it forward. And though the trial returned dubious results, it was presented to the public as a triumph and used to justify a federally sanctioned mass immunization study on thousands of families between 1953 and 1954. Indeed, the concept, conduct, and outcome of the GG study were sold to health professionals, medical researchers, and

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widen the very boundaries that define illness, and the markets for medication grow ever larger. Mild problems are redefined as serious illness and common complaints are labeled as medical conditions requiring drug treatments. Runny noses are now allergic rhinitis, PMS has become a psychiatric disorder, and hyperactive children have ADD. When it comes to conditions like high cholesterol or low bone density, being "at risk" is sold as a disease. Selling Sickness reveals how widening the boundaries of illness and lowering the threshold for treatments is creating millions of new patients and billions in new profits, in turn threatening to bankrupt health-care systems all over the world. As more and more of ordinary life becomes medicalized, the industry moves ever closer to Gadsden's dream: "selling to everyone."

The relationship between power and illness is the subject of limited discussion despite it being one of the most important issues in health-related policies and services. In an effort to correct this, *Contesting Illness* engages critically with processes through which the meanings and effects of illness shape and are shaped by specific sets of practices. Featuring original contributions by researchers working in a number of disciplines, this collection examines intersections of power, contestation, and illness with the aid of various critical theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches. The contributors explore experiences of illness, diagnosis, and treatment, and analyse wider discursive and policy contexts within which people become ill and engage with health care systems. Though each essay is unique in its approach, they are linked together by

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a shared focus on contestation as a conceptual tool in considering the relationship between power and illness. Rather than focus on a single example, the contributors address different contested illnesses (chronic fatigue syndrome and environmental illness, for instance) as well as the contested dimensions of illnesses that are accepted as legitimate such as cancer and autism. Contesting Illness offers valuable insights into the assumptions, practices, and interactions that shape illness in the twenty-first century. Contributors Jan Angus Pia H. Bülow Peter Conrad Joyce Davidson Helen Gremillion Maren Klawiter Joshua Kelley Steve Kroll-Smith Katherine Lippel Pamela Moss Michael Orsini Michael J. Prince Annie Potts Mary Ellen Purkis Sharon Dale Stone Cheryl Stults Katherine Teghtsoonian Jane M. Ussher Catherine van Mossel

In what promises to be the trial of the century, attorney-turned-author James Henderson indicts the medical/industrial cartel now dominating modern drug-based medicine for trading the health of millions of Americans for dollars. In the brilliant and intriguing setting of a jury trial the author enrolls We the People of America into a vast national jury to pass judgment on modern pharmaceutical medicine for cunningly treating chronic degenerative diseases like heart disease, cancer, and diabetes Americas leading killers by merely seeking to manage the symptoms of these diseases, not even attempting to cure them. Drug-based medicine has become big business. It thrives on sickness. It dares not cure the patient or the money pipe-line dries up. The price tag? Overt two trillion dollars annually and climbing. And America is

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getting sicker by the day. Author James Henderson offers the proven testimonies of eminent nutritional physicians and medical geniuses who have turned their backs on this criminal monopoly. These brave souls have risked their careers to blow the whistle on the drugging of America. In this court of public opinion, if we, the jury, cannot discern the truth, what hope is there for justice? Or for medical freedom in America? Will We the People make a decision before its too late? Read *Indicted!* and decide for yourself. The SAGE Handbook of Mental Health and Illness is a landmark volume, which integrates the conceptual, empirical and evidence-based threads of mental health as an area of study, research and practice. It approaches mental health from two perspectives - firstly as a positive state of well-being and personal and social functioning and secondly as psychological difference or abnormality in its social context. Unique features include: - a broad and inclusive view of the field, providing depth and breadth for the reader - a team of international, multi-disciplinary editors and contributors, and - discussion of the many of the unresolved debates in the field about constructs and causes. The Handbook will be an invaluable resource for postgraduate students, academics and researchers studying mental health in disciplines such as psychiatry, clinical psychology, social work, occupational therapy, nursing and sociology.

This new edition of *Staying Alive* provides readers with a fresh perspective on health, health care, and illness in Canada and abroad. Grounded in a human rights approach

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to health, this edited collection includes chapters on the social construction of illness and disability, social determinants of health, and current critical issues in the field. The third edition has been thoroughly updated and includes recent national and international developments in health care, with current world statistics and an emphasis on austerity-related changes and their effects on health and health care systems. It includes chapters on pharmaceutical policy, social class, women's health, and the impact of economic forces such as globalization and privatization in health care.

A provocative assessment of what the author believes to be the medical industry's role in creating today's health-care crisis also outlines practical suggestions for how to avoid common pitfalls, identifying widespread side effects of commonly prescribed medications that the author contends have been systematically hidden by the pharmaceutical industry.

More disinformation and misinformation as perceived "bad news" threatens to disturb domestic tranquility.

Against a backdrop of virtual intercourse, online porn, and burgeoning Viagra sales, *Sex, Lies, and Pharmaceuticals* reveals how women's sexual difficulties are being repackaged as symptoms of a new disorder. In this compelling book, award-winning journalist Ray Moynihan teams up with drug assessment specialist Barbara Mintzes to investigate the creation of female sexual dysfunction or FSD, and the marketing machine that promises to "cure" it. The authors go inside the corridors of medical power to visit drug company-sponsored scientific meetings and medical education events where doctors are being trained to see women's

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sexual problems as the symptoms of FSD — a pharmaceutically treatable condition. Moynihan and Mintzes explore the underlying causes of sexual dissatisfaction among women and expose how global drug companies exploit those problems in an attempt to create the next billion dollar disease.

read this book and rage.' Clive Hamilton This remarkable investigation of the Sickness Industry is by two accomplished writers with an incredible story to tell.' Robyn Williams Three decades ago, the head of one of the world's leading drug companies made some remarkably candid comments. Wishing his company was more like the chewing gum maker Wrigley's, the chief executive of Merck said it had long been his dream to make drugs for healthy people, and sell to everyone'. That dream now drives the marketing machinery of one of the most profitable industries on the planet. Using their dominating influence in medical science, drug companies are marketing fear in order to re-define human illness. In alliance with company-friendly doctors and sponsored patient groups, the all-powerful pharmaceutical industry is helping to widen the very definitions of disease, in order to expand markets for its drugs. With compelling clarity, *Selling Sickness* reveals how the ups and downs of daily life are becoming mental disorders, and common complaints are being transformed into frightening conditions. Shyness is Social Anxiety Disorder, PMS is a psychiatric illness called PMDD, and active children now have ADHD. As more and more ordinary people are turned into patients, drug companies move ever closer to that dream of selling to everyone.

The Political Economy of Media and Power is a highly interdisciplinary and innovative edited collection, bringing together a diverse range of chapters that address some of the most important issues of our times. Contributors cut through media spectacle and make visible the

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intersections between mass media and the politics of power in the contemporary social world. The book is intended to foster critical pedagogy; chapters explore ways in which media connect with a broad range of topics and issues, including globalization; war and terrorism; foreign affairs; democracy; governmental relations; the cultural politics of militarization; gender inequality and the sexist saturation of the public sphere; media representations of women; media spin and public relations within the broader context of corporate and ideological power. The volume features notable contributors, including a preface by Cees Hamelink, an introduction by David Miller and William Dinan, and chapters from Justin Lewis, Robin Andersen, Henry Giroux, James Winter, Robert Jensen, Stuart Allan, Richard Keeble, Yasmin Jiwani, David Berry, Gerald Sussman, and Andrew Mullen.

"This is the long-awaited text on interdisciplinary treatment and assessment of, among other clinical topics, brain-derived behavioral, cognitive, and neurological disorders...." --Niels Birbaumer, PhD University of Tübingen, Germany Member of the German Academy of Sciences, Leopoldina "Gone is the unidimensional approach of the expert summarizing a topic from a single vantage point. Instead, the content shifts laterally, embracing not only interdisciplinary expertise, but an integrative way of thinking that transcends each discipline....What makes the Handbook so refreshing is that this cross pollination of ideas and approaches is more than novel theorizing. It offers clinicians a new way forward." --Anthony Feinstein, MD, MPhil, PhD, FRCP University of Toronto To maintain the highest standards, allied health care practitioners must keep pace with evolving trends in diagnostics, interventions, and methodologies. This book supports clinicians by disseminating important perspectives, research, and procedures. It provides an integrative roadmap that fosters

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interdisciplinary cooperation. Key Features: Presents reviews of research on a broad selection of clinical disorders Includes a wide range of established and emerging diagnostic and intervention approaches Discusses viable evidence-based alternative treatment methods Critiques certain approaches, paradigms, and practices that may need to be revised Includes contributions from renowned psychologists, psychiatrists, and researchers Clinicians, researchers, and students will find this book a valuable source for interdisciplinary practice and research. It facilitates a sorely needed move toward integrative practice in an era in which specialization pervades.

Alan Cassels, co-author of the international bestseller "Selling Sickness: How the World's Biggest Pharmaceutical Companies are Turning Us All into Patients," returns to his favourite topic armed with outrageous humour and even more outrageous facts. As if Dr. Seuss had taken on an overmedicated, overdiagnosed culture, Alan Cassels offers up a great romp of disorders that go bump in the night, along with the industry-sponsored drugs marketed to make us better again. This illustrated, verse-form alphabet is not for the faint of heart at any age. It is, however, meticulously footnoted for therapeutic use by consumers and health policy pundits of all shapes, sizes and chemical compositions. Take all twenty six letters of Cassels' alphabet with a dose of good old skeptical humour. Trust us, your health care policy will feel better in the morning.

What's Wrong with Fat? examines the social implications of understanding fatness as a medical health risk, disease, and epidemic. Examining the ways in which debates over fatness have developed, Abigail Saguy argues that the obesity crisis literally makes us fat, intensifies negative body image, and justifies weight-based discrimination.

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Explaining the innovative, radical, and aggressive approaches towards a more effective and efficient public health care, this definitive guide wraps up the series of seminars, workshops, and publications from CROSSTALKS--Vrije Universiteit Brussel's university and industry network that aims to bridge the gap between the academic and industrial world. This account examines the information gathered from 2005 to 2008 and discusses the contemporary challenges as well as the advances in medicine. Seeking to generate an open dialog about the world of health care, this compilation brings together voices from academic, political, corporate, and patient communities that want to engage in a collaborative exploration of the future of public health care.

Argues that medical screening exploits people's fears, exaggerates the benefits of being screened, and downplays the damage.

The Protein Myth illustrates how we can vastly reduce our risk for the killer diseases like cancer, heart disease, stroke, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease by eliminating animal products from the diet. The book links the Western diet to obesity in children, the drug culture, factory farming, the needless vivisection of animals and the creation of poverty in developing nations. The Protein Myth makes a compelling case that the way to a healthier life and a better world is to end the abuse and exploitation of animals. Book jacket.

At age 52, while in the privacy of her own home, Nancy Rector had a twenty plus man SWAT team break her door down with a battering ram and was arrested in

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front of her daughter and 5-year-old granddaughter and taken away to jail in handcuffs. Her crime? Purchasing a single order of pain medication online without a prescription. She ended up a convicted felon for doing nothing more than trying to survive an incredibly painful, debilitating, chronic illness for which no doctor would diagnose nor treat her as she had no insurance. This is her detailed story of what happened to her and how and why it can happen to anyone. We live in a country where freedom, individual rights and justice are held to be of extreme importance. A country on the cutting edge of science, medicine and technology, where the common social mantra is "We're Number One!" It is also the only industrialized nation in the world that does not provide healthcare for its sick and dying. In fact predatorial capitalism has made any type of healthcare option out of reach for millions of its citizens. This, in combination of an overburdened legal system, places its citizens in circumstances where justice, decency and humanity are lacking if not absent altogether.

This book makes a historical inquiry into how the normal aging of bones was transformed into a medical diagnosis requiring treatment. -- Publisher description. The Pharmaceutical Studies Reader is an engaging survey of the field that brings together provocative, multi-disciplinary scholarship examining the interplay of medical science, clinical practice, consumerism, and the healthcare marketplace.

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Draws on anthropological, historical, and sociological approaches to explore the social life of pharmaceuticals with special emphasis on their production, circulation, and consumption Covers topics such as the role of drugs in shaping taxonomies of disease, the evolution of prescribing habits, ethical dimensions of pharmaceuticals, clinical trials, and drug research and marketing in the age of globalization Offers a compelling, contextually-rich treatment of the topic that exposes readers to a variety of approaches, ideas, and frameworks Provides an accessible introduction for readers with no previous background in this area

It's Enough to Make You Sick explains how the American health care system developed and how it has deteriorated into a national disgrace. Lobosky indicts the special interests who have played a role in the demise of American health care, examines the current attempts at reform, and offers a practical, compassionate blueprint for effective change.

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