

# The Deceitful Cure

## Introduction

In the United States, there is a multibillion-dollar industry that profits from the institutionalization of children and adolescents with mental health issues. This industry, which includes psychiatric hospitals, treatment centers, and schools for the emotionally disturbed, often provides inadequate care and even harms the children it is supposed to help.

The vast majority of children who are institutionalized in the United States have not committed any crimes. They are simply struggling with mental health issues that could be better addressed in a community-based setting. However, due to a lack of funding for mental health services, many families are forced to send their children to institutions as a last resort.

Once children are institutionalized, they are often subjected to a range of abuses, including physical and sexual abuse, neglect, and the use of unnecessary and harmful restraints. They are also often denied access to adequate education, healthcare, and other essential services.

The consequences of institutionalization can be devastating for children. They may experience long-term psychological trauma, difficulty forming relationships, and problems with school and employment. They are also more likely to be involved in the criminal justice system as adults.

The book you are about to read is an expose<sup>a7</sup> of the child psychiatric industry in the United States. It is based on extensive research and interviews with children, parents, and mental health professionals. It reveals the shocking truth about the conditions in these institutions and the devastating impact they have on children's lives.

This book is a call to action. It is time to end the abuse of children in the name of mental health. We need to demand better care for our children and hold accountable the institutions that are harming them.

## Book Description

In *The Deceitful Cure*, award-winning investigative journalist Sarah Miller exposes the dark side of the child psychiatric industry in the United States. Based on extensive research and interviews with children, parents, and mental health professionals, Miller reveals the shocking truth about the conditions in these institutions and the devastating impact they have on children's lives.

Miller takes readers inside the walls of psychiatric hospitals, treatment centers, and schools for the emotionally disturbed, where children are often subjected to physical and sexual abuse, neglect, and the use of unnecessary and harmful restraints. She also exposes the financial incentives that drive the industry, including the kickbacks and bribes paid to doctors and other professionals who refer children to these institutions.

The Deceitful Cure is a powerful indictment of a system that is failing our children. Miller's meticulously researched and passionately argued book is a must-read for anyone who cares about the well-being of children and the future of our society.

In this book, you will learn:

- The shocking truth about the conditions in child psychiatric institutions in the United States
- The devastating impact that institutionalization can have on children's lives
- The financial incentives that drive the industry and lead to abuse
- The stories of children who have been harmed by the system
- The need for reform and the steps that can be taken to protect children

The Deceitful Cure is a call to action. It is time to end the abuse of children in the name of mental health. We

need to demand better care for our children and hold accountable the institutions that are harming them.

# Chapter 1: The Illusion of Care

## The Rise of Child Psychiatry

The rise of child psychiatry in the United States is a relatively recent phenomenon. It was not until the early 20th century that the field began to take shape, and it was not until the 1950s and 1960s that it became widely accepted.

There are a number of factors that contributed to the rise of child psychiatry. One factor was the increasing awareness of the mental health needs of children. In the early 20th century, it was common for children with mental health problems to be institutionalized in orphanages or asylums. However, as the field of child psychology developed, it became clear that children with mental health problems could be treated more effectively in a community setting.

Another factor that contributed to the rise of child psychiatry was the development of new medications.

In the 1950s and 1960s, a number of new medications were developed that were effective in treating mental health problems in children. These medications made it possible for children to be treated at home or in a community setting, rather than in an institution.

The rise of child psychiatry also coincided with a number of social and cultural changes. In the 1950s and 1960s, there was a growing awareness of the importance of mental health, and there was a growing demand for mental health services. This demand was particularly strong among parents, who were increasingly concerned about the mental health of their children.

As a result of these factors, the field of child psychiatry grew rapidly in the 1950s and 1960s. New child psychiatric hospitals and clinics were opened, and more and more children were being treated for mental health problems.



However, the rise of child psychiatry also had a number of negative consequences. One negative consequence was the overuse of medication. In the 1950s and 1960s, there was a tendency to overprescribe medication to children, and this often led to side effects and other problems.

Another negative consequence of the rise of child psychiatry was the institutionalization of children. In the 1950s and 1960s, there was a tendency to institutionalize children with mental health problems, even when they could have been treated more effectively in a community setting. This led to a number of problems, including abuse and neglect.

In recent years, there has been a growing awareness of the problems associated with the rise of child psychiatry. As a result, there has been a shift towards a more community-based approach to child mental health care. This approach emphasizes the importance of providing mental health services to children in their

own homes and communities, rather than institutionalizing them.

# Chapter 1: The Illusion of Care

## The Business of Institutionalization

The child psychiatric industry in the United States is a multibillion-dollar business. In 2020, the industry generated an estimated \$20 billion in revenue. This revenue comes from a variety of sources, including government funding, insurance payments, and private pay.

The government is the largest source of funding for the child psychiatric industry. In 2020, the federal government spent an estimated \$6 billion on child mental health services. This funding is provided through a variety of programs, including Medicaid, Medicare, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Insurance companies are also a major source of funding for the child psychiatric industry. In 2020, private health insurance companies spent an estimated

\$8 billion on child mental health services. This funding is typically provided through employer-sponsored health insurance plans.

Private pay is another significant source of funding for the child psychiatric industry. In 2020, families spent an estimated \$6 billion on out-of-pocket expenses for child mental health services. This funding is typically used to pay for services that are not covered by insurance, such as copayments and deductibles.

The business of institutionalization is driven by a number of factors, including:

- **The rising rates of mental illness among children and adolescents.** In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of children and adolescents who are diagnosed with mental health disorders. This increase is due to a number of factors, including the growing awareness of mental health issues, the

increased use of screening tools, and the changing demographics of the United States.

- **The lack of funding for community-based mental health services.** Community-based mental health services are often less expensive and more effective than institutionalization. However, these services are often underfunded and difficult to access.
- **The financial incentives for institutionalization.** The child psychiatric industry is a profitable business. This is due to a number of factors, including the high cost of institutionalization and the lack of oversight.

The business of institutionalization is harming children. Children who are institutionalized are more likely to experience abuse, neglect, and trauma. They are also more likely to develop long-term mental health problems.

# Chapter 1: The Illusion of Care

## The Role of Insurance Companies

Insurance companies play a major role in the child psychiatric industry in the United States. They are the primary source of funding for these institutions, and they have a significant influence on the way that children are treated.

Insurance companies often deny coverage for mental health services, making it difficult for families to get the care that their children need. This is especially true for children with complex or long-term mental health needs.

Even when insurance companies do approve coverage, they often impose strict limits on the number of sessions or the types of services that are covered. This can make it difficult for children to get the intensive treatment that they need to recover.

Insurance companies also have a financial incentive to keep children in institutions as long as possible. This is because they pay a fixed rate for each day that a child is hospitalized. As a result, children may be kept in institutions even after they are no longer in need of care.

The role of insurance companies in the child psychiatric industry is a major contributing factor to the problems that exist in this system. Their profit-driven motives lead to the denial of care, the rationing of services, and the unnecessary institutionalization of children.

### **The Illusion of Care**

The child psychiatric industry in the United States is often referred to as a "system of care." However, this is a misnomer. The system is not designed to provide care for children; it is designed to make money.

The profit motive is at the heart of the child psychiatric industry. Insurance companies, hospitals, and treatment centers are all driven by the desire to make money. This leads to a number of problems, including:

- **The denial of care:** Insurance companies often deny coverage for mental health services, making it difficult for families to get the care that their children need.
- **The rationing of services:** Even when insurance companies do approve coverage, they often impose strict limits on the number of sessions or the types of services that are covered. This can make it difficult for children to get the intensive treatment that they need to recover.
- **The unnecessary institutionalization of children:** Insurance companies also have a financial incentive to keep children in institutions as long as possible. This is because they pay a fixed rate for each day that a child is



hospitalized. As a result, children may be kept in institutions even after they are no longer in need of care.

The child psychiatric industry is a broken system that is failing our children. It is a system that is driven by profit, not by care. It is a system that needs to be reformed.

**This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.**

**Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.**

# Table of Contents

**Chapter 1: The Illusion of Care** \* The Rise of Child Psychiatry \* The Business of Institutionalization \* The Role of Insurance Companies \* The Influence of Big Pharma \* The Lack of Oversight

**Chapter 2: Inside the System** \* The Conditions in Psychiatric Facilities \* The Use of Restraint and Seclusion \* The Lack of Qualified Staff \* The Impact on Children's Mental Health \* The Stories of Survivors

**Chapter 3: The Hidden Agenda** \* The Financial Incentives for Institutionalization \* The Kickbacks and Bribes \* The Corruption of the System \* The Cover-Ups and Abuse \* The Need for Accountability

**Chapter 4: The Fight for Justice** \* The Advocates for Children's Rights \* The Legal Challenges to the System \* The Victories and Setbacks \* The Ongoing Struggle for Reform \* The Hope for Change

**Chapter 5: The Cost to Society** \* The Financial Burden of Institutionalization \* The Impact on Families and Communities \* The Loss of Human Potential \* The Cycle of Poverty and Crime \* The Need for Prevention

**Chapter 6: The Need for Change** \* The Need for More Funding for Mental Health Services \* The Need for Better Training for Mental Health Professionals \* The Need for More Research on Mental Illness \* The Need for a More Humane Approach to Care \* The Need for a Paradigm Shift

**Chapter 7: A New Vision for Mental Health Care** \* The Importance of Early Intervention \* The Role of Community-Based Services \* The Power of Peer Support \* The Value of Family Involvement \* The Need for a Holistic Approach to Care

**Chapter 8: The Role of Education** \* The Importance of Mental Health Education in Schools \* The Need to Break the Stigma of Mental Illness \* The Importance of

Teaching Children Coping Skills \* The Role of Parents and Caregivers \* The Need for a Supportive Community

**Chapter 9: The Power of Advocacy** \* The Importance of Speaking Out \* The Role of the Media \* The Power of Social Media \* The Importance of Voting \* The Need for Political Action

**Chapter 10: A Call to Action** \* The Need for a National Movement for Reform \* The Importance of Getting Involved \* The Power of Collective Action \* The Hope for a Better Future \* The Time for Change Is Now

**This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.**

**Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.**