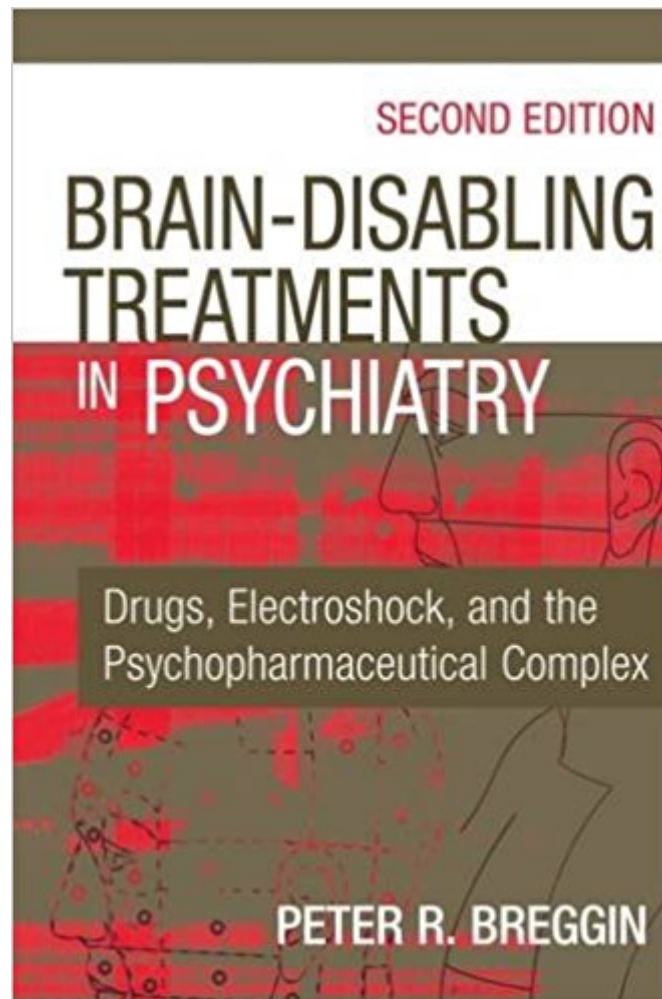


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Brain Disabling Treatments In Psychiatry: Drugs, Electroshock, And The Psychopharmaceutical Complex



Synopsis

From the author of *Toxic Psychiatry* and *Talking Back to Prozac*: Peter Breggin is the conscience of American psychiatry. Once more he updates us on the real evidence with respect to the safety and effectiveness of specific psychiatric medications and ECT. This information is needed by all mental health professionals, as well as patients and families." --Bertram Karon, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Michigan State University, Author of *The Psychotherapy of Schizophrenia* "Nowhere does false medical thinking do more harm than in the modern psychiatric argument that mental illness is easily diagnosed and then cured by a side-effect free drug. Nowhere is the correct psychiatric thinking more evident than in the books by Peter Breggin. -- William Glasser, MD, psychiatrist, author of *Reality Therapy* In *Brain Disabling Treatments in Psychiatry*, renowned psychiatrist Peter R. Breggin, M.D., presents startling scientific research on the dangerous behavioral abnormalities and brain dysfunctions produced by the most widely used and newest psychiatric drugs such as Prozac, Paxil, Zoloft, Cymbalta, Effexor, Xanax, Ativan, Ritalin, Adderall, Concerta, Strattera, Risperdal, Zyprexa, Geodon, Abilify, lithium and Depakote. Many of Breggin's earlier findings have improved clinical practice, led to legal victories against drug companies, and resulted in FDA-mandated changes in what the manufacturers must admit about their drugs. Yet reliance on these drugs has continued to escalate in the last decade, and drug company interests have overwhelmed psychiatric practice. This greatly expanded second edition, supported by the latest evidence-based research, shows that psychiatric drugs achieve their primary or essential effect by causing brain dysfunction, and that they tend to do far more harm than good. New scientific analyses in this completely updated edition include: Chapters covering every new antidepressant and stimulant drug Twenty new guidelines for how to conduct non-drug therapy A chapter describing how to safely withdraw from psychiatric drugs A discussion of "medication spellbinding," explaining how patients fail to appreciate their drug-induced mental dysfunctions Documentation of how the drug companies control research and the flow of information about psychiatric treatments

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Customer Reviews

First, let me state that I think that there is much in the work of Dr. Breggin that is important to read and think about. I would highly recommend anyone become familiar with his work, because his opinions are in the minority in the medical profession and these opinions need to be heard. Many naysayers of Dr. Breggin point out all sorts of problems with his accusations and some of this is warranted, but what is also warranted is Dr. Breggin's ability to point out problems with so-called legitimate research. Let's face it, there IS a crisis in psychiatry. Many people suffer needlessly "trying out" medications that will never cure them, may make them worse, and may not even have an effect. Most, if not all, psychiatric textbooks have this glaring sentence over and over; "we don't really know how this chemical functions in the brain". This fact alone is upsetting when thinking about how millions of children with developing brains are being medicated by compounds that "we don't really know how they work". This way of doing medicine is unacceptable and must be changed. Whether driven by drug company profit motives, or the researcher's grant needs, true answers and cures need to be found for mental illness in order for psychiatry to evolve into a branch of medicine that will finally "first do no harm." The alarmist nature of Dr. Breggin's work points to someone who is motivated by the nearly insurmountable task of being one of the few to try to take up this mission. Armed with lots of information, this book tries to paint a picture that is very bleak and I do think that there is much truth to this outlook. Nevertheless, the solutions offered here are troublesome at best even if he were correct. His answers to the problem of treatment of mental illness are not that black and white.

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