

Stigma of Addiction

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Conflict of Interest/Disclosures

Name	Commercial Interests	Relevant Financial Relationships: what was received	Relevant Financial Relationships: for what role	No Relevant Financial Relationships with any Commercial Interests
Ken Rodenbaugh	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE



True or False

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In 1980, Jane Porter and Dr. Hershel Jick wrote a small one paragraph letter to the editor to the New England Journal of Medicine. This was all Purdue Pharma needed to create a multi-billion-dollar prescription painkiller industry, practically brainwashing Health Care Providers all across the country.

True or False

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The Washington State Department of Labor and Industries were among the first to recognize the increased overdose death rate of those prescribed opioids through their workmans comp program. However, this contradicted an idea central to the Pain Revolution: that there is no limit and how much of your pain killer patient might be prescribed.

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Although, historically, major cities have played the part as hub for illicit drugs such as cocaine and heroin, it was the suburbs that birthed the pill mill. The first "pill mill" was founded in the small town of Portsmouth, Ohio, quickly spreading outward throughout Ohio, into Kentucky, and eventually growing exponentially throughout Florida.

True or False

Florida was the first state to install a prescription monitoring program.

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In 2009, Florida was the last state to install a prescription monitoring system

True or False

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4 out of 5 heroin users state they started abusing prescription opioids before turning to heroin.

True or False

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Substance Use Disorder is a chronic and progressive disease. Often, the last thing someone suffering from active addiction will lose is their job.

True or False

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True or False

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Recovery is possible!



What is Stigma?

- stig-ma
- 'stigma
- Noun

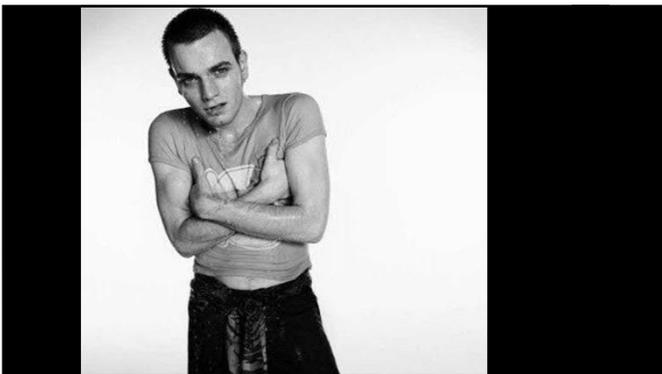
-a mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person.

"The stigma of drug addiction will always be with me."

According to World Health Organization, addiction to illicit drugs is the most stigmatizing condition

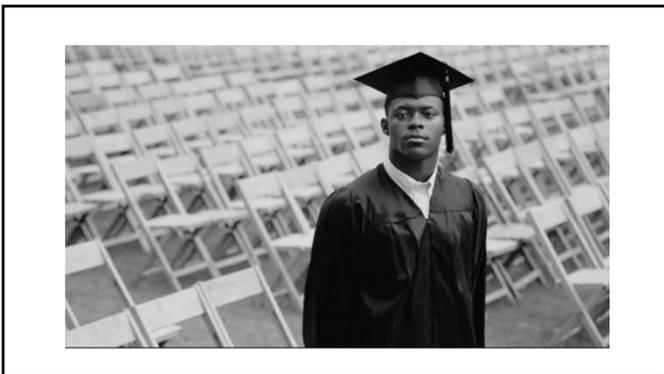












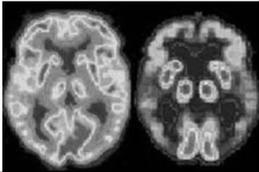




Is it Really?

❑Addiction is a primary, chronic and relapsing brain disease characterized by an individual pathologically pursuing reward and/or relief by substance use and other behaviors.

❑Opiates, Benzos, Alcohol = Chemicals that are MIND ALTERING substances that can, and will, result in long lasting changes to brain.



Although the initial act of ingestion or participation of use is voluntary, cessation of the habit is not "



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Addiction causes the user to lose their freedom to make choices. It is considered an illness by the World Health Organization (WHO). Individuals with substance use disorders make the use of alcohol or other drugs an essential part of their lives and focus all their actions in the objective of using substances.



Just This Once...

- ▶ Four in five new heroin users started out misusing prescription painkillers.⁸
- ▶ 94% of respondents in 2014 survey of people in treatment for opioid addiction said they chose to use heroin because prescription opioids were "far more expensive and harder to obtain"

If we could remove the stigma, guilt and shame from the equation, it would be easier for people to make a realistic assessment of their problem and discuss it openly with their health care provider.



CONSEQUENCES FROM STIGMA

For people with substance abuse disorders, stigma can have dramatic consequences:

- ▶ Stigma can create barriers to people seeking or receiving professional help to address their problem; 20.7 million people suffering from substance use disorder, with only 4 million seeking treatment (2017)
- ▶ It can lead to professional isolation of people or unjustified dismissals;
- ▶ It can affect people's ability to reconnect with their community and access employment and education opportunities;
- ▶ It can further compound the social difficulties experienced by people and lead to their isolation and exclusion, with negative impacts on mental and physical health.



Addiction is a disease. It is not a moral failing.

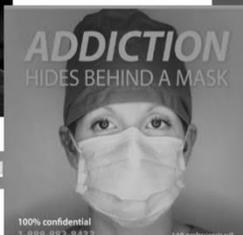
Say What

Clinicians — from the least educated up through doctoral-level professionals — take a more punitive stance when patients are described as "substance abusers" rather than "people with substance use disorder."



- Conclusions:
- Even among highly trained mental health professionals, exposure to these two commonly used terms evokes systematically different judgments. The commonly used "substance abuser" term may perpetuate stigmatizing attitudes





▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggAzHnLxHag>



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