



The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit

By Bruce Alexander

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'The Globalization of Addiction' presents a radical rethink about the nature of addiction.

Scientific medicine has failed when it comes to addiction. There are no reliable methods to cure it, prevent it, or take the pain out of it. There is no durable consensus on what addiction is, what causes it, or what should be done about it. Meanwhile, it continues to increase around the world. This book argues that the cause of this failure to control addiction is that the conventional wisdom of the 19th and 20th centuries focused too single-mindedly on the afflicted individual addict. Although addiction obviously manifests itself in individual cases, its prevalence differs dramatically between societies. For example, it can be quite rare in a society for centuries, and then become common when a tribal culture is destroyed or a highly developed civilization collapses. When addiction becomes commonplace in a society, people become addicted not only to alcohol and drugs, but to a thousand other destructive pursuits: money, power, dysfunctional relationships, or video games. A social perspective on addiction does not deny individual differences in vulnerability to addiction, but it removes them from the foreground of attention, because social determinants are more powerful.

This book shows that the social circumstances that spread addiction in a conquered tribe or a failing civilisation are also built into today's globalizing free-market society. A free-market society is magnificently productive, but it subjects people to irresistible pressures towards individualism and competition, tearing rich and poor alike from the close social and spiritual ties that normally constitute human life. People adapt to their dislocation by finding the best substitutes for a sustaining social and spiritual life that they can, and addiction serves this function all too well.

The book argues that the most effective response to a growing addiction problem is a social and political one, rather than an individual one. Such a solution would not put the doctors, psychologists, social workers, policemen, and priests out of work, but it would incorporate their practices in a larger social project. The project is to reshape society with enough force and imagination to enable people to find social integration and meaning in everyday life. Then great numbers of them would not need to fill their inner void with addictions.

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Typically the book The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit will bring that you the new experience of reading a book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to learn, this book very suited to you. The book The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

David McGowan:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a book. The book The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

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