

Book Review

Politics in Healing: The suppression and manipulation of American Medicine, Daniel Haley, Washington, DC, Potomac Valley Press, 2000 (revised 2001), 481 pp., soft cover. \$19.95 plus \$4.00 P&H. 1-(800) 898-0639.

Dan Haley's book, *Politics in Healing*, is an eye opener. It is an extraordinarily well documented text that should be required reading for all that work in our diverse health fields as well as the duped public at large. Many of his excellent chapters do not totally surprise me. As a psychologist for over 40 years, I have long battled power driven elitists who operate under the premise that the end justifies the means, that winning is everything, and who lack an inner moral compass substituting instead a dollar sign. Their credo might well be "the more bucks, the merrier". Haley validates my notions of what constitutes one form of contemporary "leadership" roles in America.

I have seen many that only gravitated towards "the top" for what personal gain might be gotten. They surround themselves with like-minded henchmen who will do whatever is necessary. If you want to be promoted within such a "top-down system", then one must learn to "play the game" and not offend the powerful. It leads many that are otherwise decent folks into acts of psychopathic proportions. This attitude permeates almost all hierarchies where dictates flow from the top down. Prison where I briefly worked was a prime example of that philosophy on both sides of the fence, guards as well as inmates. Hospitals, mental health clinics, school systems and other "helping" agencies are all potential areas where power hungry like-minded go-getters gravitate for the advancement into power that hierarchies afford. But when it is our very government agencies that block changes that could save lives, the time has come for public outrage to crystallize into action. Haley's book will do that.

But if the innocent reads it, as most of us are about "Politics and Healing", be prepared for some shocks about the FDA, AMA, FTC, NCI and other governmental agencies. *Politics in Healing* should be the wake up call the public needs to motivate them into action. Haley urges us to write our congress people to support the

Access to Medical Treatment Act and the Health Freedom of Choice Act as the only way to get the government out of the control of non-toxic healing therapies. I totally agree. As President Eisenhower best said it, "Perhaps some day the government will get out of the way . . ."

In documenting ten case histories of "The suppression and manipulation of American medicine," Haley offers incontrovertible proof of the devastation such power elites have had on cancer deaths in the US. It amounts to a national scandal that only the citizenry can put right. There has been some success stories along the way, one that I have been personally involved with for the past two decades. I first met Dr. Daniel L. Kirsch at a workshop he gave in Sarasota, Florida where I reside. He demonstrated his Alpha-Stim 100, a remarkable electromedical device. Since that impressive demonstration, I have advocated and used the device with many clients with equally impressive results. But Dr. Kirsch's path was one that almost was blocked by the insidious campaign the FDA waged against this powerful non-toxic tool. His tale would make another most interesting book. We are most fortunate that Dr. Kirsch prevailed against the destructive juggernaut of the FDA. And we are most fortunate that Haley has given us Dr. Kirsch's remarkable story (pp. 292–311) as a message of hope that perseverance does (sometimes) pay off.

Others were less fortunate. Genius' are most often unrecognized within their times. One remarkable fellow in the 1920's had developed a light microscope capable of a 60,000 magnification that enabled him to see live viruses that had never been seen before. These viruses changed shapes in different stages of cancers that he studied. As a non-medical highly innovative and inventive thinker and "tinkerer", Royal Raymond Rife also developed a ray tube, which held great promise as a cancer cell destroyer. Despite demonstrating his techniques first, curing 16 of 16 cases of terminal cancers, despite winning legal cases, in spite of developing a clinic where successes outweighed failures, a medical society's interventions stopped him dead. Haley reports, ". . . the San Diego Medical Society warned

all the doctors who had been involved with the Rife Ray that if they continued using it, they could lose their licenses.” (p. 110). Rife’s trials were not the first, nor would his experiences be the last where self-serving orthodoxy prevailed over newer more unconventional non-toxic remedies. Haley documents in detail cases of outright fraud, deception and vindictive destruction of people and their discoveries when those discoveries threatened the established order.

A twice-nominated Nobel Prize candidate also fell victim to the politics of power. Robert O. Becker, M.D. had an established reputation as a “. . . world-renowned orthopedic surgeon and pioneering scientist in electromedicine” (p. 271), with 150 published articles in medical journals. It would be hard to find a more impeccable record than his, yet he was to befall the same fate as many others when he crossed swords with the establishment. His two books, *The Body Electric* (1985) and *Cross Currents* (1990), document many of his discoveries. “Regarded as the creator of the field known as Bioelectromagnetics,” this offered no protection from the onslaught of the orthodox medical establishment’s attacks. He hoped to be the first to regenerate limbs and spinal cords in humans. He conducted groundbreaking extensive studies: of salamanders that had this regenerative capacity; electromagnetic anesthesia; the effects of high voltage currents on humans; acupuncture points as conductors of current; and the capacity to block the effect of cancer cell division through electromedical applications. His efforts were strangled

when his lab was shut down by a rivalous Veteran’s Administration that cut off his funds. Haley documents 12 major discoveries (p. 290) that Becker unveiled through his painstaking research and creative thinking that have yet to see full fruition.

Haley sheds light on a tragedy of vast proportions that has befallen Americans due to the runaway uncontrolled powers of established governmental hierarchies. With cancer and pharmaceutical-caused deaths at an all time high and growing, with the failure of established orthodoxy to give us new effective cancer cures and protection despite the waste of countless billions of taxpayer dollars, it is time for changes. In this day when more of us seek non-traditional medical interventions, largely because of traditional medicine’s failures, we have reason for optimism. The cost to each of us will be our involvement, one way or another. Should we fail to act in an aroused fashion to right the wrongs Haley has documented, we will pay our dues in unnecessary suffering and expense. That is too high a price to pay for not taking a proactive stance. Haley has opened the door. Let us walk through it to a better place.

Paul C. H. Trieloff, Ph.D.
1800 Goldenrod Street
Sarasota, FL 34239-5119
USA
E-mail: Psychtrie@aol.com