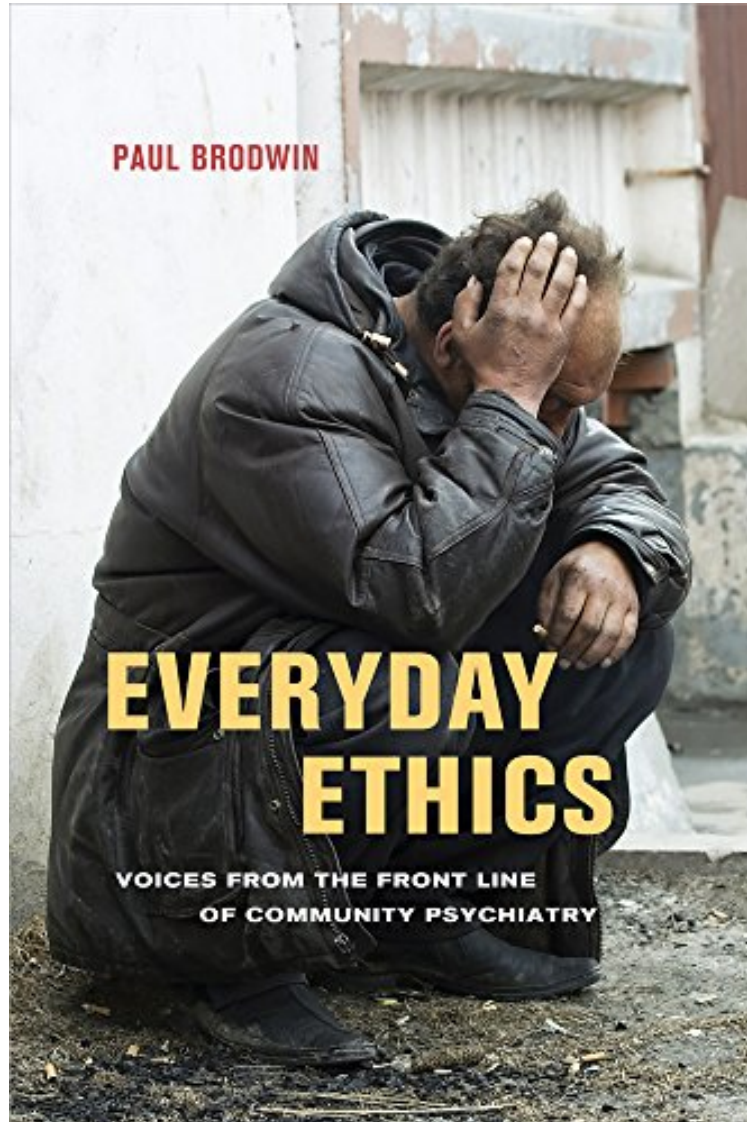


(Free pdf) Everyday Ethics: Voices from the Front Line of Community Psychiatry

Everyday Ethics: Voices from the Front Line of Community Psychiatry

Paul Brodwin

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Paul Brodwin : Everyday Ethics: Voices from the Front Line of Community Psychiatry before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Everyday Ethics: Voices from the Front Line of Community Psychiatry:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Suffering among us By Louise Venden Another account of the tragedies of deinstitutionalizing chronically mentally ill people without providing anywhere nearly adequate resources.

This academically dense depiction of the struggles of both patients with complicated addiction, police, housing problems, but also layers of staff from barely trained social workers to psychiatrists dealing with the limitations of their sincere efforts to help them. Community based mental health treatment is a painful task when patient freedom so often conflicts with effective treatment, and there are no cures, only staying the course and hoping good days outnumber bad ones. The debate about the ethical dilemma of restricting people's freedom through court ordered drug treatment, paying patients to take their drugs and carefully doling out their money to ensure compliance with treatment, housing and behavior orders is not resolved herein. But the emotional price paid by caregivers and patients is painfully displayed. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Required reading By Anna Timm Was a required book for Psychology class ... I think this would have been better suited for a Social work class. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Christina M. Cianci 5 stars

This book explores the moral lives of mental health clinicians serving the most marginalized individuals in the US healthcare system. Drawing on years of fieldwork in a community psychiatry outreach team, Brodwin traces the ethical dilemmas and everyday struggles of front line providers. On the street, in staff room debates, or in private confessions, these psychiatrists and social workers confront ongoing challenges to their self-image as competent and compassionate advocates. At times they openly question the coercion and forced-dependency built into the current system of care. At other times they justify their use of extreme power in the face of loud opposition from clients. This in-depth study exposes the fault lines in today's community psychiatry. It shows how people working deep inside the system struggle to maintain their ideals and manage a chronic sense of futility. Their commentaries about the obligatory and the forbidden also suggest ways to bridge formal bioethics and the realities of mental health practice. The experiences of these clinicians pose a single overarching question: how should we bear responsibility for the most vulnerable among us?

From the Inside Flap Paul Brodwin's rich and historically sensitive ethnographic account, *Everyday Ethics: Voices from the Front Line of Community Psychiatry*, is a highly accessible introduction to the ethical dilemmas of Assertive Community Treatment (ACT). While clearly demonstrating the systems flaws, this dynamic and well-researched work avoids the common tendency to villainize, lionize, or otherwise simplify its professionals, allowing their ethical quandaries to become our own. E. Summerson Carr, author of *Scripting Addiction: The Politics of Therapeutic Talk and American Sobriety* "Everyday Ethics is a crucial account that deserves to be widely read. A serious anthropological contribution to medical ethics. This book unpacks community care—so key to global health—and does the same for the ethics of practice. It leaves the reader with wonder, puzzlement and ultimately acknowledgment of the impossible yet unavoidable struggles at the heart of caregiving." Arthur Kleinman, author of *What Really Matters* "This is a masterful, disturbing ethnography of ethical decision making at 'the rough edges of community psychiatry.'" Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good, co-author of *Shattering Culture: American Medicine Responds to Cultural Diversity*