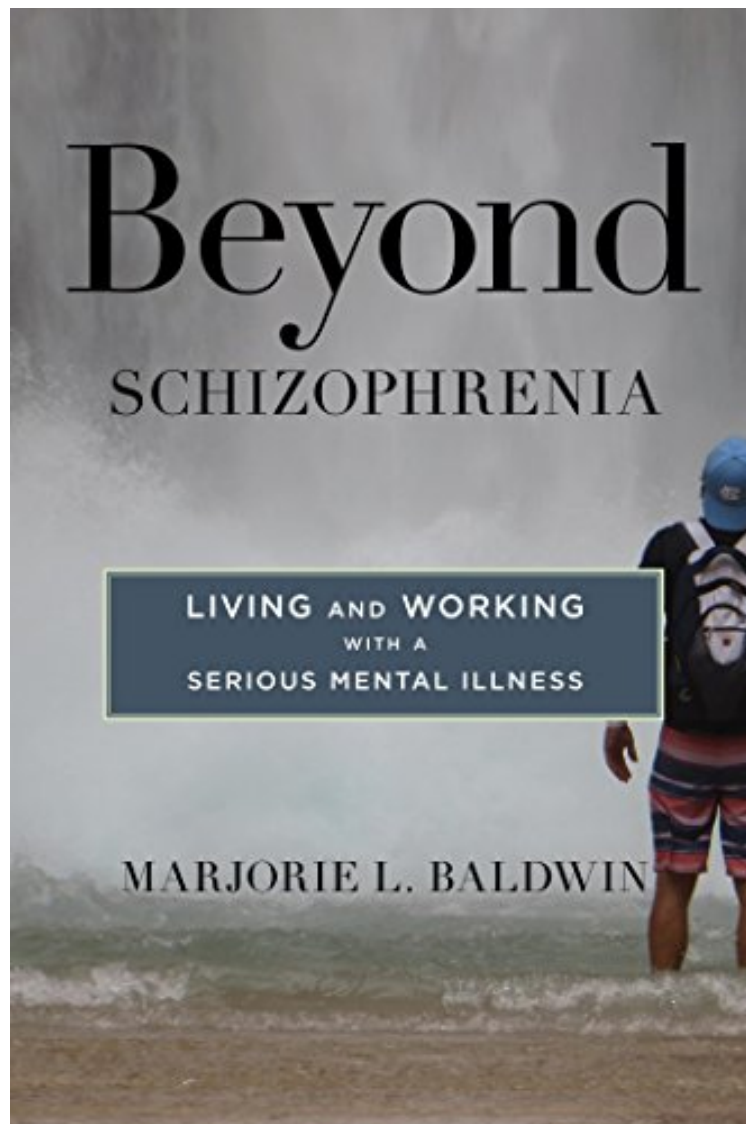


(Download) Beyond Schizophrenia: Living and Working with a Serious Mental Illness

Beyond Schizophrenia: Living and Working with a Serious Mental Illness

Marjorie L. Baldwin

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Marjorie L. Baldwin : Beyond Schizophrenia: Living and Working with a Serious Mental Illness before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beyond Schizophrenia: Living and Working with a Serious Mental Illness:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent description of living with a loved one with schizophrenia ...By SteveExcellent description of living with a loved one with schizophrenia from two perspectives: 1) A mother; and 2) A health economist. This combination makes it more than a simple (yet valid) story of how a family comes

together to overcome this challenge because it also incorporates the impact of the disease on the health system. A must read for those interested in moving the mental health system forward. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Best Book on Schizophrenia By Kathy Must reading for all policy makers. Best book on serious mental illness that I have ever read, and I read all I can find. Dr. Baldwin has unsurpassed insight and knowledge about the subject as well as better recommendations and solutions than are presently found in this country. How can we get our policy makers to read this book? 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Combines academic thinking and personal feelings By doug korty Few books combine serious academic thinking with intimate personal feelings. This one does and Marjorie Baldwin writes well. She covers a large number of issues involved with serious mental illness (SMI) in general and schizophrenia in particular and tells a detailed personal story about her son and herself. It is a unique and valuable book. The author is an academic, the bibliography is a very academic one with almost no trade books. I create and maintain educational websites, Midwest Independent Research. I have one on mental health, mwir-mentalhealth.blogspot.com.

The experience of living and working with schizophrenia is often fraught with challenges and setbacks. This book is a comprehensive attempt to explain why, in spite of near-miraculous advances in medication and treatment, persons with mental illness fare worse than almost any other disadvantaged group in the labor market. As a researcher of economics and disability and the mother of a son with schizophrenia, the author speaks from both professional and personal experience. First, she looks at societal factors that affect employment outcomes for persons with schizophrenia (or other serious mental illness), including stigma and discrimination, investments in human capital, the quality of mental health services, and the support of family and friends. Then she examines workplace factors that affect employment outcomes, including employer mandates in the Americans with Disabilities Act, the decision to disclose a diagnosis of mental illness at work, the interaction between job demands and functional limitations, and job accommodations for persons with a serious mental illness. Giving weight to both perspectives, the final chapter outlines a set of policy recommendations designed to improve employment outcomes for this population.

In this fascinating and personal look at mental illness, a labor economist at Arizona State, Baldwin, whose youngest son was diagnosed with schizophrenia at age 21, raises unsettling questions. Why do people with mental illness face as much discrimination as convicts? Why do they often end up unemployed and in jail? Twenty-seven years ago, Baldwin listened to her son, David, then a college junior, talk nonstop and behave erratically and thought he was experimenting with drugs. In fact, he was showing symptoms of schizophrenia, which usually starts in the late teens or early twenties. He spent three weeks in the hospital, where he told his mom he thought the TV commercials were sending messages to him. Schizophrenia is relatively rare; less than 1 percent of the population suffers from it; but Baldwin also addresses the broader issue of mental illness and employment. 'One of the great tragedies of the disease is the loss of self-reliance and self-esteem associated with being denied a productive work life,' she writes. Her son's story ends on a positive note: he is married and runs a construction business. The personal is political in this rallying cry to help those with mental illness get stable employment, not just medical treatment. (Booklist, Starred) This book is a good read for those in the general public but should be of particular interest to academic and public service psychologists, other mental health professionals, disability rights advocates, and those in recovery from serious mental illness and their friends and family members. (PsycCRITIQUES) [T]his is a good resource for clinicians and researchers. Clinicians will appreciate the first section of the book while economic researchers will value the second section.... All clinicians, including physicians, should recognize the importance of connecting patients with schizophrenia to caring and competent medical professionals; now, as a result of this book, I strongly believe that we need new policies and support systems to make employment just as accessible as medical treatment. (Society of Teachers of Family Medicine) Baldwin's extensive knowledge and lived experience grant her an insight into the topic of schizophrenia and employment outcomes. Although written in an academic style, the text is not obscure. Baldwin demonstrates an assiduous ability to distill complicated economic terminology and research findings from a vast array of studies and to present these in a clear and common-sense manner. Overall, she offers a well-researched and heavily referenced volume that aims to inform current best solutions for increasing competitive job opportunities for people with SMI, including schizophrenia. A must-read for all researchers and policy makers, this book should also be prominently included in the clinician's library. Her translation of a wide body of economic theory and empirical research data into a set of clear and comprehensible policy recommendations is highly relevant for anyone whose professional interests are aimed at a better integration of theory and practice in mental health research. Additionally, mental health service users and patient advocates and caregivers may find hope and insight from Baldwin's fascinating and personal look at schizophrenia. (Metapsychology Online) In the tradition of Pete Earley and Fuller Torrey, Marjorie Baldwin weaves her experiences as a close family member of a seriously mentally ill person with hard hitting, scholarly arguments for improving our dysfunctional, fragmented mental health system. Not since *A Beautiful Mind* has there been such a masterful exposition of the interface between economics and schizophrenia. This book is a riveting clarion call for action and should be essential reading for anyone with a serious interest in improving

conditions for the mentally ill. (Fred Frese, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry, Northeast Ohio Medical University) Skillfully researched and beautifully written, Baldwin's book depicts the lived experience of schizophrenia within an ambience of family coping, service system deficits, societal stigma, and employment problems, with evidence of resiliency and potential for recovery. This data-based, moving story may greatly enhance the knowledge and hopefulness of caregivers and mental health professionals. (Harriet P. Lefley, PhD, Professor Emerita of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine) In this poignant book, Marjorie Baldwin skillfully interweaves the story of her son's coping with and recovery from schizophrenia with a scholarly review and critique of the poor mental health treatment system. As a health economist, Baldwin brings fresh insights into the relationship between employment and mental illness, and makes bold recommendations for systemic and rehabilitation approaches to improving work functioning, and helping people with schizophrenia establish personally meaningful lives. (Kim T. Mueser, PhD, Executive Director, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation; Professor of Occupational Therapy, Psychology, and Psychiatry, Boston University) About the Author Marjorie L. Baldwin is a professor in the Department of Economics at the W. P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University, whose son was diagnosed with schizophrenia in his junior year of college. Baldwin is a labor economist who has conducted research on work disability and disability-related discrimination for 25 years. After her son's diagnosis, she focused her disability studies on persons with mental illness in the labor market. She is the author or co-author of more than 50 articles and book chapters, and has a national reputation for her studies of employment outcomes among persons with serious mental illness (SMI). Baldwin has been a principal investigator for major studies of labor market discrimination against persons with SMI, sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, and National Institute of Drug and Alcohol Abuse. She is Academic Director of Public Health Programs in the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State. She is also a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, where she is chair of the Study Panel of Workers' Compensation Data.