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Grey House Publishing Announces the Twenty-second Title in the
Opinions Throughout History Series:
Mental Health

Mental Health is the twenty-second volume in the *Opinions Throughout History* series. Each volume in the series is designed to follow the evolution of public opinion on a current and controversial topic that has changed throughout history. Each volume discusses both primary and secondary documents such as newspaper and magazine articles, speeches, court decisions and other legislation. Accompanied by expert commentary and analysis, these documents showcase the changing attitudes on these important issues of public interest over time.

This new volume starts with a detailed **Introduction** that discusses the meaning and origins of Mental Health; this is followed by a comprehensive Timeline of significant events.

In the early 1700s, Americans who suffered from mental illness had few options for treatment and often found little in the way of sympathy from their fellow colonists. With no knowledge about the nature of mental illness or its treatment, mentally ill children and adults were often confined to prisons or even forced to live on the outskirts of settlements or even in the surrounding wilderness. The shift in attitudes about mental health—from being viewed as a dangerous social evil to being recognized as a public health issue—occurred gradually and was driven by the advent and spread of scientific knowledge.

This volume of *Opinions Throughout History* looks at how attitudes about mental health have changed from the colonial era to the twenty-first century, and how developments in medicine, psychiatric care, and social services have changed the fate of those living with behavioral health challenges. The history and evolution of mental health care and philosophy are discussed, as well as peripheral issues like drug and alcohol abuse, child and family welfare, and the ongoing debate over government subsidies for health care and social outreach programs.

Chapters in this volume explore a variety of relevant topics, including:

- Depression
- The Sex and Gender Debate
- Criminal Responsibility
- Suicide and the Right to Die
- Deinstitutionalization
- The Insanity Defense
- Homelessness and Mental Health
- Modifying Behavior
- Traumatic Stress
- Psychedelic Solutions

Each chapter starts with a brief **Introduction**, **List of Topics Covered**, and **the source document** discussed in the chapter. The body of the text discusses the document from its historical context to its relationship to contemporary public opinion. Most documents are reprinted in their entirety and clearly distinguished by a shaded title bar. In addition to helpful subtitles, photos and other images enhance the text, and sidebars provide a profile of an individual who has espoused, legitimately or for personal or financial gain, a conspiracy theory of the time period being discussed. Each chapter ends with a brief **Conclusion**, thoughtful **Discussion Questions**, and a list of **Works Used**.

This exciting series offers a wide range of insights into long-standing issues that Americans are most concerned about, and those that have encouraged vigorous debate among politicians and citizens at large. Using carefully-chosen original documents that cover a wide time span, *Opinions Throughout History* weaves a thoughtful and easy-to-understand analysis of how public opinion is formed and evolves, starting the discussion at an historical, seminal moment, and ending with where we stand today. This comprehensive, timely volume is a must for large public libraries, university libraries and social science departments, along with high school libraries.

FREE ONLINE ACCESS

Buyers of *Opinions Throughout History: Mental Health* receive FREE ONLINE ACCESS on the popular Grey House/Salem Press Platform, <https://online.salempress.com>. With unlimited users and remote access included, your students and researchers can now search this amazing collection of data, anytime & anywhere, all just a click away.

Opinions Throughout History: Mental Health

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