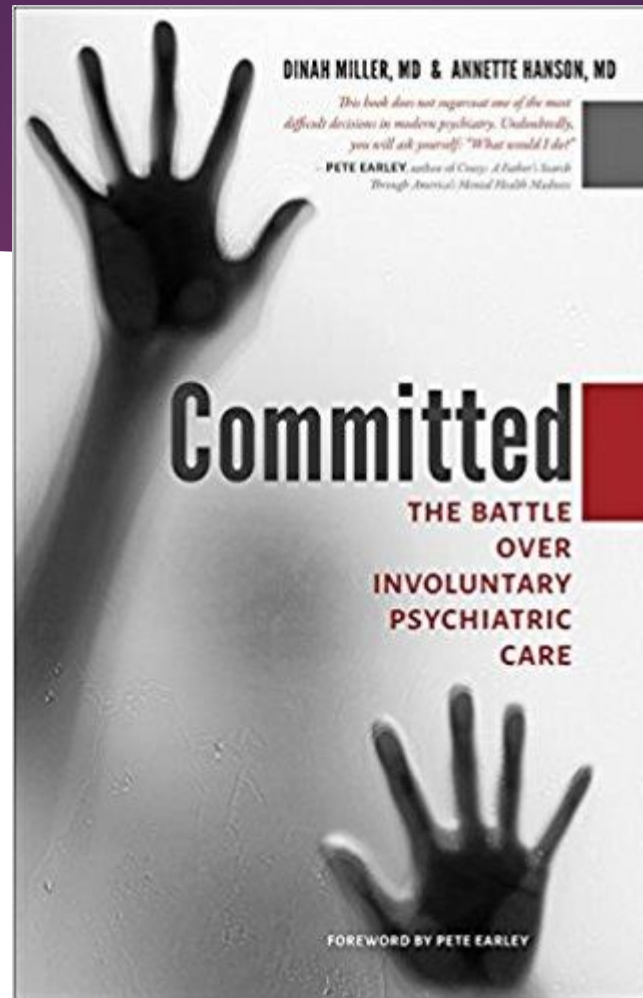


Life-long implications for mentally ill patients who have been treated against their will - Patient or Prisoner -

A DISCUSSION OF THE FLAWS AND FAILURES OF INVOLUNTARY PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALIZATION
PRESENTED IN *COMMITTED: THE BATTLE OVER INVOLUNTARY PSYCHIATRIC CARE*

BY KARIN TOCHKOV, PHD

Reference



Hospitalization

- ▶ In 2012, 1,777,300 people were hospitalized in the US for a mental illness.
- ▶ Informed consent
- ▶ Loss of autonomy
- ▶ Loss of freedom
- ▶ Forced medication

Patients experiences

- ▶ Terrified
- ▶ Physically restrained
- ▶ Forcibly injected with meds (meds unknown/potential risks/side effects)
- ▶ Scared away from future treatment
- ▶ Trauma

Who makes the decision?

- ▶ Intern/ER doctor who gets a consult from a case management worker
- ▶ Inexperienced staff pushing people into hospitalization
- ▶ No alternatives

Consequences

- ▶ Psychological and physical trauma
- ▶ Undue harm to patients in greatest time of need

Legal Issues

- ▶ 2013 Christina Schuhmacher
- ▶ “Eleanor”
- ▶ Mentally ill have fewer rights than a criminal who has willfully committed a crime

How to shift to a System that prioritizes patient's rights?

- ▶ Psychiatric Advanced Directives: PAD's decreased rates of future involuntary hospitalization by 23%
- ▶ Mediation
- ▶ Recovery-oriented care systems