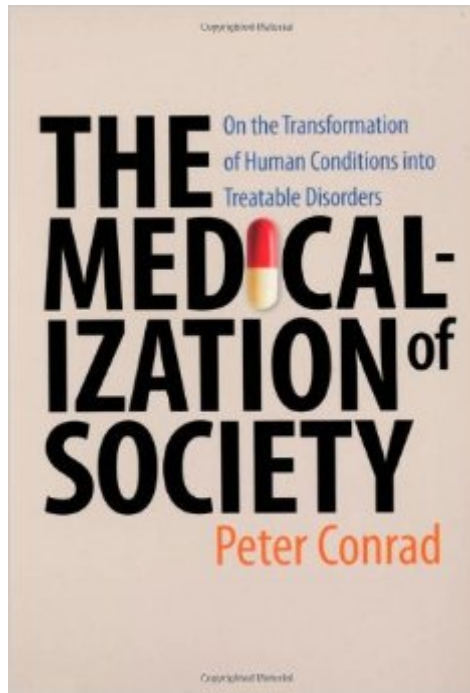


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# The Medicalization Of Society: On The Transformation Of Human Conditions Into Treatable Disorders



## Synopsis

Over the past half-century, the social terrain of health and illness has been transformed. What were once considered normal human events and common human problems—birth, aging, menopause, alcoholism, and obesity—are now viewed as medical conditions. For better or worse, medicine increasingly permeates aspects of daily life. Building on more than three decades of research, Peter Conrad explores the changing forces behind this trend with case studies of short stature, social anxiety, "male menopause," erectile dysfunction, adult ADHD, and sexual orientation. He examines the emergence of and changes in medicalization, the consequences of the expanding medical domain, and the implications for health and society. He finds in recent developments—such as the growing number of possible diagnoses and biomedical enhancements—the future direction of medicalization. Conrad contends that the impact of medical professionals on medicalization has diminished. Instead, the pharmaceutical and biotechnical industries, insurance companies and HMOs, and the patient as consumer have become the major forces promoting medicalization. This thought-provoking study offers valuable insight into not only how medicalization got to this point but also how it may continue to evolve.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is very unique. It shows how knowing rules gives you little power. It demonstrates to the reader reality of life: how the processes are done in US so the small group could misuse the system. The book explore how ignoring historical values the small group of people decides which of the

historically cultural value are old and which one should be kept for of their own interest. This book should be used as a textbook in universities. The book is uncovering too much truth, therefore it could meet the obstacles from the professors, instructors, administration etc. The medicalization and the related social and political process moves the society and its course of development. Therefore, sharing this book with students and public, for someone could mean losing the power.

Ã very good general outline of medicalization as social problem. Gives a basis understanding for analyses of the role of the pharmacetic industri and lobby groups.

This was an easy and diverse read. I thought it was well written and brought meaningful discussion to the topics of medicalization, gender, sex, and feminism,

Everyone should read this book because we are all at risk for being improperly diagnosed and prescribed medicine and treatment we do not need.

Fast, punctual service. Will be continuing service with this company. Will recommend to others for future book purchases and other transactions.

THE MEDICALIZATION OF SOCIETY: ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF HUMAN CONDITIONS INTO TREATABLE DISORDERS provides an overview of a field which recounts our love/hate relationship with the health professionals and the business side of health care systems, making for a complex analysis perfect for college-level health libraries and social science collections alike. Chapters build on over thirty years of research to explore trends in health care, treatment, and perceptions of health and the human condition, using common medical problems to consider their changing treatment and its implications for society as a whole.

This book was required reading for a graduate Sociology course in Health and Medicine. This is an easy read full of interesting factoids and generally good ideas. I didn't mind having to analyze it for class. Not what I expected, honestly :)

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