

PsychRights®

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Heritage Foundation Presents Perjury Proponent

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bastille Day is here, but some organizations think locking people up on the basis of uninvestigated charges and secret trials is okay—even that our laws don't go far enough in doing so. On Wednesday, July 18th, the Heritage Foundation in Washington D.C., is [hosting a talk by E. Fuller Torrey, M.D.](#), America's most notorious proponent of violating psychiatric rights.

Torrey is promoting his book, [The Insanity Offense: How America's Failure to Treat the Seriously Mentally Ill Endangers Its Citizens](#), which advocates making it even easier to lock citizens up, label and stigmatize them without legal justification, and forcibly drug them against their will ("forced treatment"). In a prior book, Torrey explicitly advocates committing perjury to accomplish these aims, noting with approval, "It would probably be difficult to find any American psychiatrist working with the mentally ill who has not, at a minimum, exaggerated the dangerousness of a mentally ill person's behavior to obtain a judicial order for commitment."

Award winning author of [Anatomy of An Epidemic, Magic Bullets, Psychiatric Drugs, and the Astonishing Rise of Mental Illness in America](#), Robert Whitaker, recently had occasion to expose Dr. Torrey's deliberate use of falsehoods to advance his agenda in, [E. Fuller Torrey's Review of Anatomy of an Epidemic: What Does It Reveal About the Rationale for Forced Treatment?](#)

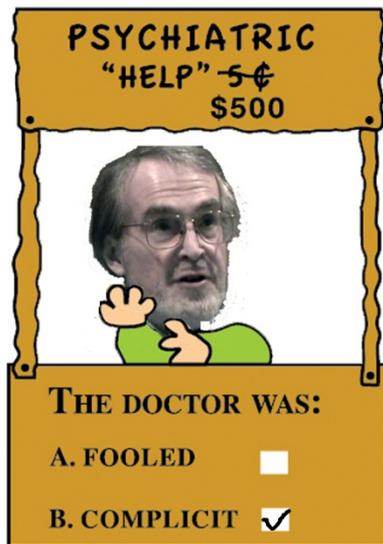
[Occupy Psychiatry](#), a new joint project by the Law Project for Psychiatric Rights (PsychRights®) and MindFreedom, International, will be at the presentation to counter Torrey's falsehoods. The [informational flyer](#) for this event is attached. James B. (Jim) Gottstein, Esq., president of PsychRights, said, "The paid henchmen of the pharmaceutical companies, such as E. Fuller Torrey, must be challenged when they spin their web of lies." Mr. Gottstein is hoping to attend.

People are gathering at 11:30 a.m. at 214 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E. For more information go to the [Occupy Torrey Tirade Facebook Event Page](#).

The Law Project for Psychiatric Rights is a public interest law firm devoted to the defense of people facing the horrors of forced psychiatric drugging and electroshock. PsychRights is further dedicated to exposing the truth about psychiatric interventions and the courts being misled into ordering people subjected to these brain and body damaging drugs against their will. Extensive information about these dangers, and about the tragic damage caused by electroshock, is available on the PsychRights web site: <http://psychrights.org/>.

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E. FULLER TORREY IS PART OF THE PROBLEM; NOT THE SOLUTION



The story the American Psychiatric Association and individual psychiatrists, such as E. Fuller Torrey have been telling their patients and the public is not true.

There are no proven chemical imbalances or other known brain defects that result in what gets diagnosed as mental illnesses.

Most of the drugs given to treat people diagnosed with mental illness are no better than placebo and many cause tremendous physical problems.

The second generation of so-called "anti-psychotics" (neuroleptics) are effective for few and harmful to all. Contrary to drug company hype, they are not more effective than first generation neuroleptics and far more harmful.

Largely as a result, the disability rate of people diagnosed with serious mental illness has increased 6-fold on a per capita basis since the introduction of the supposed miracle drug Thorazine in 1954.

Largely due to the use of these drugs, the life expectancy of people diagnosed with serious mental illness is 25 years less than the general population.

The stimulants used to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and the so-called antidepressants have dramatically increased the incidence of people diagnosed with bipolar disorder and converted it from a good prognosis diagnosis to one that is quite poor.

The ubiquitous use of psychiatric drugs is at least halving the percentage of people who recover after being diagnosed with a serious mental illness; it appears about 80% of the people presenting with an initial psychosis can recover if they are not given and maintained on psychiatric drugs.

The American Psychiatric Association and individual psychiatrists are either fooled or complicit to the extent they do not publicly acknowledge **and act on** these facts.

Sources: [Anatomy of an Epidemic: Magic Bullets, Psychiatric Drugs, and the Astonishing Rise of Mental Illness in America](#), by Robert Whitaker; and [Scientific Research by Topic](#) on PsychRights' website.

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INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT AND FORCED PSYCHIATRIC DRUGGING IN THE TRIAL COURTS: RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AS A MATTER OF COURSE

JAMES B. (JIM) GOTTSTEIN*

A commonly-held belief is that locking up and forcibly drugging people diagnosed with mental illness is in their best interests as well as society's as a whole. The truth is far different. Rather than protecting the public from harm, public safety is decreased. Rather than helping psychiatric respondents, many are greatly harmed. The evidence on this is clear. Constitutional, statutory, and judge-made law, if followed, would protect psychiatric respondents from being erroneously deprived of their freedom and right to decline psychiatric drugs.

However, lawyers representing psychiatric respondents, and judges hearing these cases uncritically reflect society's beliefs and do not engage in legitimate legal processes when conducting involuntarily commitment and forced drugging proceedings. By abandoning their core principle of zealous advocacy, lawyers representing psychiatric respondents interpose little, if any, defense and are not discovering and presenting to judges the evidence of the harm to their clients. By abandoning their core principle of being faithful to the law, judges have become instruments of oppression, rather than protectors of the rights of the downtrodden. While this Article focuses on Alaska, similar processes may be found in other United States' jurisdictions, with only the details differing.

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