



# **Smoking Privileges: Psychiatry, the Mentally Ill, and the Tobacco Industry in America (Critical Issues in Health and Medicine)**

*Laura D. Hirshbein*

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Current public health literature suggests that the mentally ill may represent as much as *half* of the smokers in America. In *Smoking Privileges*, Laura D. Hirshbein highlights the complex problem of mentally ill smokers, placing it in the context of changes in psychiatry, in the tobacco and pharmaceutical industries, and in the experience of mental illness over the last century.

Hirshbein, a medical historian and clinical psychiatrist, first shows how cigarettes functioned in the old system of psychiatric care, revealing that mental health providers long ago noted the important role of cigarettes within treatment settings and the strong attachment of many mentally ill individuals to their cigarettes. Hirshbein also relates how, as the sale of cigarettes dwindled, the tobacco industry quietly researched alternative markets, including those who smoked for psychological reasons, ultimately discovering connections between mental states and smoking, and the addictive properties of nicotine. However, *Smoking Privileges* warns that to see smoking among the mentally ill only in terms of addiction misses how this behavior fits into the broader context of their lives. Cigarettes not only helped structure their relationships with other people, but also have been important objects of attachment. Indeed, even after psychiatric hospitals belatedly instituted smoking bans in the late twentieth century, smoking remained an integral part of life for many seriously ill patients, with implications not only for public health but for the ongoing treatment of psychiatric disorders. Making matters worse, well-meaning tobacco-control policies have had the unintended consequence of further stigmatizing the mentally ill.

A groundbreaking look at a little-known public health problem, *Smoking Privileges* illuminates the intersection of smoking and mental illness, and offers a new perspective on public policy regarding cigarettes.

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Playing with family in a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Smoking Privileges: Psychiatry, the Mentally Ill, and the Tobacco Industry in America (Critical Issues in Health and Medicine), you can enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

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