



The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit

By Bruce Alexander

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander

'The Globalization of Addiction' presents a radical rethink about the nature of addiction.

Scientific medicine has failed when it comes to addiction. There are no reliable methods to cure it, prevent it, or take the pain out of it. There is no durable consensus on what addiction is, what causes it, or what should be done about it. Meanwhile, it continues to increase around the world. This book argues that the cause of this failure to control addiction is that the conventional wisdom of the 19th and 20th centuries focused too single-mindedly on the afflicted individual addict. Although addiction obviously manifests itself in individual cases, its prevalence differs dramatically between societies. For example, it can be quite rare in a society for centuries, and then become common when a tribal culture is destroyed or a highly developed civilization collapses. When addiction becomes commonplace in a society, people become addicted not only to alcohol and drugs, but to a thousand other destructive pursuits: money, power, dysfunctional relationships, or video games. A social perspective on addiction does not deny individual differences in vulnerability to addiction, but it removes them from the foreground of attention, because social determinants are more powerful. This book shows that the social circumstances that spread addiction in a conquered tribe or a falling civilisation are also built into today's globalizing free-market society. A free-market society is magnificently productive, but it subjects people to irresistible pressures towards individualism and competition, tearing rich and poor alike from the close social and spiritual ties that normally constitute human life. People adapt to their dislocation by finding the best substitutes for a sustaining social and spiritual life that they can, and addiction serves this function all too well.

The book argues that the most effective response to a growing addiction problem is a social and political one, rather than an individual one. Such a solution would not put the doctors, psychologists, social workers, policemen, and priests out of work, but it would incorporate their practices in a larger social project. The project is to reshape society with enough force and imagination to enable people to find social integration and meaning in everyday life. Then great numbers of them would not need to fill their inner void with addictions.

 [**Download** The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Pover ...pdf](#)

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit

By Bruce Alexander

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander

'The Globalization of Addiction' presents a radical rethink about the nature of addiction.

Scientific medicine has failed when it comes to addiction. There are no reliable methods to cure it, prevent it, or take the pain out of it. There is no durable consensus on what addiction is, what causes it, or what should be done about it. Meanwhile, it continues to increase around the world. This book argues that the cause of this failure to control addiction is that the conventional wisdom of the 19th and 20th centuries focused too single-mindedly on the afflicted individual addict. Although addiction obviously manifests itself in individual cases, its prevalence differs dramatically between societies. For example, it can be quite rare in a society for centuries, and then become common when a tribal culture is destroyed or a highly developed civilization collapses. When addiction becomes commonplace in a society, people become addicted not only to alcohol and drugs, but to a thousand other destructive pursuits: money, power, dysfunctional relationships, or video games. A social perspective on addiction does not deny individual differences in vulnerability to addiction, but it removes them from the foreground of attention, because social determinants are more powerful.

This book shows that the social circumstances that spread addiction in a conquered tribe or a falling civilisation are also built into today's globalizing free-market society. A free-market society is magnificently productive, but it subjects people to irresistible pressures towards individualism and competition, tearing rich and poor alike from the close social and spiritual ties that normally constitute human life. People adapt to their dislocation by finding the best substitutes for a sustaining social and spiritual life that they can, and addiction serves this function all too well.

The book argues that the most effective response to a growing addiction problem is a social and political one, rather than an individual one. Such a solution would not put the doctors, psychologists, social workers, policemen, and priests out of work, but it would incorporate their practices in a larger social project. The project is to reshape society with enough force and imagination to enable people to find social integration and meaning in everyday life. Then great numbers of them would not need to fill their inner void with addictions.

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #112679 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2010-04-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.10" h x 1.30" w x 9.10" l, 1.63 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 496 pages

 **[Download](#)** [The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty ...pdf](#)

 **[Read Online](#)** [The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Pover ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Eastman:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit it is quite good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book provides high quality.

Josefina Smith:

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit yet doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information may drawn you into fresh stage of crucial imagining.

Pamela Eckert:

This The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit is great reserve for you because the content which is full of information for you who also always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it details accurately using great plan word or we can state no rambling sentences included. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but tricky core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit in your hand like having the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no publication that offer you world within ten or fifteen minute right but this guide already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that will?

Rosa Felton:

Is it you actually who having spare time and then spend it whole day by watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit can be the answer, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this completely new era is common not a geek activity. So what these publications have than the others?

Download and Read Online The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander #9JP8IK3LF5H

Read The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander for online ebook

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander books to read online.

Online The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander ebook PDF download

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander Doc

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander Mobipocket

The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander EPub

9JP8IK3LF5H: The Globalization of Addiction: A Study in Poverty of the Spirit By Bruce Alexander