

PAUL A. OFFIT, M.D.

Author of Autism's Fabre Prophets

Paul A. Offit MD

Pandora's Lab: Seven Stories of Science Gone Wrong



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What happens when ideas presented as science business lead us in the incorrect path? and how we can figure out how to use its power once and for all.and significant—as case research.S.; Offit uses these lessons to research how exactly we can separate good science from bad, using a few of today's most controversial creations— and from the cries to ban DDT for the sake of the surroundings to an epidemic-level rise in world malaria. These are today's sins of science—as deplorable as mistaken past ideas on the subject of advocating racial purity or using lobotomies mainly because a cure for mental illness." moment that should have already been an "Oh no," this book can be an engrossing account of how science provides been misused disastrously—Offit. from the rise of trans fats as the golden component for tastier, cheaper food to the cardiovascular disease epidemic that adopted;e-cigarettes, GMOs, prescription drugs for ADHD—missteps: from opium's heyday seeing that the pain reliever of preference to acknowledgement of opioids seeing that a major reason behind death in the U. For each and every "Aha! These unwitting mistakes add up to seven lessons both cautionary and profound, narrated by famous author and speaker Paul A.History is filled up with brilliant suggestions that gave rise to disaster, and this reserve explores the most amazing—



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It's not so much the science since it is a failure to critically examine the data The seven stories are about:1. Opium and opioids ("God's Personal Medicine")2. Oleomargarine and trans fat ("The Great Margarine Mistake")3. Nitrogen fertilizers and ammonium nitrate. ("Bloodstream from Air")4. Eugenics ("America's Master Race")5. How our hope for easy solutions to complex problems is definitely misguided. Rachel Carson and DDT ("The Mosquito Liberation Front")7. Linus Pauling and vitamin C; Peter Duesberg and AIDs; In these trying times, where conspiracy theories and propaganda abound in untold quantity, this publication is a breath of fresh air. One of the styles in the book is the hubris of some very famous researchers who won Nobel prizes and went on to do and/or promote some very poor science due to the fact they cannot admit these were wrong. But the true villain in these pages is not the science itself;" (p. Dr. Offit's description of the way the painkiller epidemic came to be is enraging, as it pressured into alignment the most severe incentives from the medical profession, pharmaceutical industry, media and regulatory agencies. Ideally today we've learned the lessons. Time Magazine, Newsweek, the brand new York Times (p. 145);. 124) and others (discover page 226).! Today most are much more comprehensive before passing judgement. However Offit warns near the end of the reserve that new errors by currently prestigious institutions will be made. Offit, who is a health care provider of medication and a professor of pediatrics in the University of Pennsylvania and also the author of a lot more than 160 papers in medical and scientific journals, writes in a crystal clear and readable trend that is packed with concrete detail and details, especially historical facts, a few of which are appalling and horrific. Here are a few tidbits reflective of Offit's engaging style: "Francis Galton, Charles Davenport, Harry Laughlin, Madison Grant, and Adolf Hitler most shared several features: Most were, simply by their definition, Nordic; all believed that Nordics should procreate freely while non-Nordics ought to be prevented from procreating; Failure in science as fable." (p.. a tale, "I'd rather have a bottle in front of me than a frontal lobotomy" (from Tom Waits); and a T-shirt with an image of George W. Bush and what, "Ask me about my lobotomy." In regard to Rachel Carson and her imagined Edenlike world before pesticides, Offit estimates William Cronin: "It is not hard to reach the conclusion that the only path human beings can hope to live naturally on earth is to follow the hunter-gatherers back into a wilderness Eden and abandon virtually everything that civilization has given us. it is instead the failing of individuals in the political arena, in the press and also in the medical and scientific journals to weigh the evidence properly thereby lending support to the bad science. 186)Authoring Linus Pauling and other august scientists who couldn't provide themselves to admit these were wrong, Offit gives: "When anybody contradicted Einstein, he thought it over, and if he found he was wrong, he was delighted, because he sensed he previously escaped from one.In the epilogue, Offit writes: "Although we hold on to the hope of a better life through science, we have to approach all scientific advances cautiously and with eyes widely open" (p. 197-198) The essence of Offit's argument in this reserve is this quote from page 212: "...all scientists—no matter how accomplished or well known—should have unassailable data support their claims, not just a compelling personality, an extraordinary shelf of awards, or a poetic writing style." -- Dennis Littrell, author of "Hard Science and the Unknowable" The hubris of man, and the complexity of unintended consequences I simply finished the reserve "Pandora's Lab", and I loved it! purchase a lot of books, but don't read many of them immediately. I thought it had been extremely interesting about anti-oxidants, because I simply read another journal content that demonstrates that many of the so-called antioxidants are causing cancer. I love the way the writer put scientific discovery in the context of history. I'm amazed at the depth of his traditional and scientific knowledge. I knew something of the history of the poppy, however the

author's treatment of the opioid crisis and history was masterful, and place it all into perspective when it comes to human wellness. Each chapter is extremely well researched, and provides numerous and wealthy insights in to the consequences of informing substantial, life-changing, and sometimes planetary level policy decisions, from arrogance, or from willfully overlooked settled science. All the stories have one or more protagonists who tragically go after action without proof, resulting in needless, tragic, and frequently monumental human being suffering and death because of their hubris. Luc Montagnier and the antibiotic "treatment" for autism ("Nobel Prize Disease")Additionally there is an eighth chapter entitled "Learning from the History" which is about the MMR vaccine and autism, e-smokes, Bisphenol A, malignancy screening, and GMOs. I am hoping you examine it, and then pass it to your children to learn. and all were childless. Pasteurization, antiseptics, gunpowder, paper, the screw, vaccines, the idea of evolution, the double-helix of DNA. "What are the most crucial things science did for humanity" is certainly a pretty common trope in well-known science writing. The author explains the historical development of every situation which is completely amazing.. How political environment that views a new technology being born matters. Paul Offit's answer to the query is somber, constructive, and close plenty of to provoke just a little fear for what we can handle doing one to the other in the name of battle, uncertainty, ideology, incompetence, ego and hope. Each of the seven fables of Pandora's Laboratory draws on a deep mental feature, flaw, of human nature. (Review predicated on library duplicate. Offit indicts environmentally friendly Protection Company (p. Well researched. The next fable draws on the unintended implications of new technologies, showing how artificial fertilizers made possible the demographic explosion of globe population through the XX century, but at the hefty price of environmental degradation and its inventor's dwellings into the origins of chemical substance warfare. Of all fables in Pandora's Lab, perhaps since it resonates to current sentiments in developed countries towards migration, none is more gripping compared to the history of eugenics -an ideological virus that took your hands on some of the brightest minds in biology, statistics and regulation, and through the zealotry of people like Madison Grant, lent the bottom for forced sterilization in the US and the horrors perpetrated by the Third Reich. Bad technology can change a political trigger into an unfathomable weapon, or as Offit puts it: beware the zeitgeist. Another three fables show how desperation for procedures can result in unspeakable things being perpetrated on the weakest among us, as shown by Walter Freeman's indiscriminate applications of transorbital lobotomy, and the way the radical application of the cautionary principle on DDT hampered the fight against malaria. The last fable speaks about the hazards of authority disguised as technology, retelling how brilliant scientists like Linus Pauling, Peter Duesberg and Luc Montagnier dropped their way and recurred to conspiracy theories to back their theories when evidence went the other way." (p. 241). All fables point to the disastrous outcomes that adhere to the coincidence of greed and need. The dangers of hearing the loudspeaker of ignorant activism. But take that query, transform it on its head, and open the door to uneasiness, rancor and disappointment: "What exactly are the worst factors science has ever accomplished" is certainly a thorny issue to ask: it needs a type of self-awareness that rarely rises to the occasion. Lobotomies ("Turning the Mind Inside Out")6. Why we can rid ourselves from parroquialism us-vs-the. Really eyesight opening. 188); My estimation about the idiocy of people who refuse to get vaccines is just about the identical to Dr. Luckily I got it on audible so was able to return it. Interesting! So interesting! Naturally these mistakes from prestigious institutions are reflective of previously more ignorant occasions. Learning so much scanning this book. Scientific failures. the Journal of the American Medical Association, the American Journal of General public Health, the brand new England

Journal of Medicine (p. 122)Today's view of lobotomies contains the comical: the "Frontal Lobotomy" is a drink made with amaretto, Chambord and pineapple juice; The writer chronicles seven situations where science (or having less science) got it incorrect and caused terrible outcomes for human beings, including the horrible practice of eugenics (controlled breeding), the dietary nightmare that is margarine, and the efficiency of lobotomies. Offit's books for years. To begin with, I'm mostly of the remaining 'Rubella' babies left from the 1950's and 1960's in america. I also went to medical school and worked on HIV encephalitis and Alzheimer's. Incredible There were more than enough errors (or intentional lies) and bias in the introductory part that I lost most confidence in the reliability in the remainder of the book. I in fact would have wished that various other stories could have and could have been included. And my exposure to analysis and teaching in neuro-scientific pathophysiology and physiology, have simply just whetted my appetite for good books such as Pandora's Lab. This publication is approximately failures.. I'm not sure I look at a few of Offit's options about which failures to publish in exactly the same way, but the book does inspire a lot of crucial thinking abilities, which is what a good publication along this collection should endeavor to perform. Offit's opinion. This reserve was an exception - I was engrossed in it immediately, and couldn't wait to pick it up again. Study or ideas which have led to catastrophes, we can't help but marvel at innovations and the science which has made them possible, even if we tend to ignore the failures that accrue along the way.and Offit wrote about this prior to current work in the area. Excellent read. I have been reading Dr. The first fable shows how greed plus aversion to pain fed of every other to turn opium, that herb Sumerians called "the plant of joy", into the deadly OxyContin -a drug that draws more deaths than car accidents in the US.) Misinformation misinformation Fantastic Read Definitely ranks as a top-5 favorite read for me. Scientism is fun and pedagogical, despite the predictable hyperbole; Excellent. Excellent book Nonfiction that helps to keep you turning the pages. The second fable provides advocacy to the blend, showing how health activism facilitated the introduction of deadly partially hydrogenated vegetable oils (trans fats) into world diet due to some well-intentioned policy that, trying to remove one evil, invited a worse one in. Occasionally I question why I bother reading fiction books when there are nonfiction like this one looking forward to me to read. Extremely interesting research into big scientific debatable issues Essential read for everyone in the sciences. And, worse of all, how our deference to authority can change science into the weapon of the whimsical. Gives a great perspective on the intersection of technology and politics and what eventually drives decisions. I discovered a lot!



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