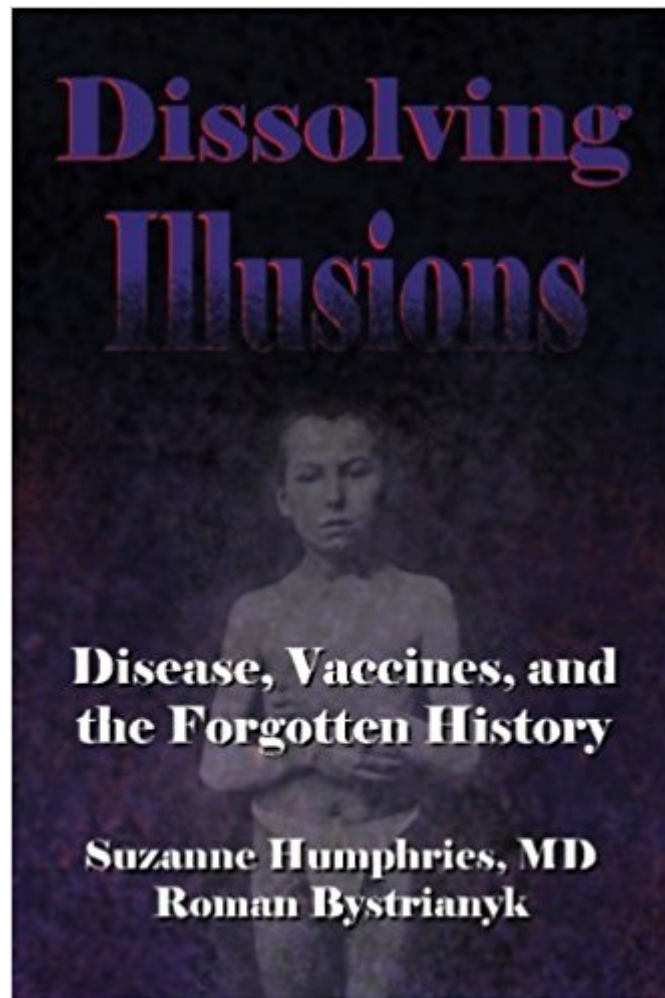




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Dissolving Illusions: Disease, Vaccines, And The Forgotten History



Synopsis

Not too long ago, lethal infections were feared in the Western world. Since that time, many countries have undergone a transformation from disease cesspools to much safer, healthier habitats. Starting in the mid-1800s, there was a steady drop in deaths from all infectious diseases, decreasing to relatively minor levels by the early 1900s. The history of that transformation involves famine, poverty, filth, lost cures, eugenicist doctrine, individual freedoms versus state might, protests and arrests over vaccine refusal, and much more. Today, we are told that medical interventions increased our lifespan and single-handedly prevented masses of deaths. But is this really true? Dissolving Illusions details facts and figures from long-overlooked medical journals, books, newspapers, and other sources. Using myth-shattering graphs, this book shows that vaccines, antibiotics, and other medical interventions are not responsible for the increase in lifespan and the decline in mortality from infectious diseases. If the medical profession could systematically misinterpret and ignore key historical information, the question must be asked, "What else is ignored and misinterpreted today?" Perhaps the best reason to know our history is so that the worst parts are never repeated.

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Customer Reviews

Stay with me--this is about the book: Whenever I purchase anything from Amazon, I read every single critical review of a product prior to purchasing. This is a wonderful strategy for securing a superior product. Usually I get to the 15th - 20th negative review when I can qualitatively generalize the predominant

complaint or common attribute of the critical population. For example, with a masticating juicer I am researching, I've noticed that critical reviewers hadn't read the proper cleaning instructions of the device, thus the most common complaint is one specific "failing" part. Now I REALLY want the juicer, because I have deduced that even the negative reviews are mostly positive ones, so long as you are able to read instructions and apply what you've learned... which a lot of folks seem to struggle with. I think this book is another clear example that this methodology is a best practice for finding a great book; it is a superb literature review of research that busts the "safe and effective" mantra. The critical reviewers are obviously taking to the comment postings with something to prove, or possibly don't understand literature review/what the book is intended to achieve, or are unconsciously defending their own irreversible parenting choices. If the question is "Did the authors provide a central location for threading together years of information that you'll never otherwise experience?" Then my five-star answer indicates : "Absolutely." Also, I have spoken to Dr. Humphries recently in a 2 hour wellness consult. I have never in my life been treated so respectfully. She truly is a wealth of knowledge and she will answer any questions you have about the book. If you are truly using this text to make a decision about whether or not to vaccinate your kids, I would suggest printing/copying what you find to be the "most well-grounded" critical reviews here, and address them with her directly via a consult. She will not get defensive and she will speak to you like a human being... which is a lot different than your local physician. Good luck getting more than 5 minutes with that doctor, and if they don't laugh in your face--that's a "success." If you actually read my entire review--> I hope your decisions and chosen path, whatever they may be, work out for the best for you and for your family.

It is good to hear the 'other side of the story' on vaccines: having had children who reacted badly to childhood immunizations, and seeing the same thing happen with grandchildren, I am understandably nervous over the current push to vaccinate against every possible thing. I am also old enough to remember when children regularly got measles, chicken pox, mumps and the like (I had them all). . . and never remember anyone having a serious problem recovering uneventfully. Anyone who listens to the news and reads current articles on advances in medicine has to be aware that there has been a great deal of 'spin' on this issue . . . and one seldom finds any true refutation of this spin except in 'alternative health' articles. As a critical reader, I not only read those articles but look for source documents and read those sources carefully, too. What I find is that there are plenty of small studies supporting Dr Andrew Wakefield's supposedly-discredited findings on an autism,/MMR link . . . and realizing that the majority of funding for such research comes from the

very pharmaceutical industry which sells these vaccines. That is why there are NO large studies-and why these small studies get buried. There's a major profit motive here-a profit not endangered by valid lawsuits due to the Federal Government shielding them from litigation. One of the first clues-to me-was the continued insistence that modern medicine has increased the human life expectancy by many years. This is supposed to be common knowledge but what most people don't understand is that simply the reduction of infant mortality and childbirth deaths make up most of the increase. The figures are an average of ALL lives. No, your great-great-great-grandfather lived to be well over 45, most likely. You may be surprised to find just how far over 45 yrs! As the family genealogist, I read a lot of historical documents and even a cursory examination of lifespan among those people doesn't show that shortened lifespan: I had a great many ancestors in the 1700-1800s who live to nearly-or more than-100 yrs old. I can also see that some family lines had short lifespans . . . apparently heredity plays a large part in this. Some families were also very good at raising a large number of children to adulthood, where others suffered the loss of most of their children in infancy. Clearly there are other things going on here-and I suspect that good nutrition and rudimentary sanitation had a great deal to do with it. It certainly wasn't vaccination OR antibiotics. In reading Dr Humphries book, she expounds on infant mortality based on delivery methods and attendant hygiene as part of the cause for better childbirth success. What she says here echoes an obscure sociological article written about the midwives of Northern Michigan before 1900 . . . again, something I was researching for genealogy. She also points out that the dreaded 'iron lung' used for paralysis patients 70 years ago has been replaced by the standard ventilator. Nearly all of us know someone who has needed to be on a ventilator during a hospitalization in recent years-we have never equated it with the 'iron lung'-a much more scary image!! Her numerous charts clearly show that the incidence of the original dread diseases which we are dutifully vaccinating for were already in decline-both in contagion and in strength, before vaccines against them were in use. This is usually the way communicable diseases work: a disease that kills too many of its victims starves itself out of existence. The usual course of such viruses and diseases is to become weaker over time and for many more people to survive them. This week, after the big scare over Ebola (which, btw, didn't become epidemic in the US because we treated it with quarantine, hygiene and supportive medical care)-is now mutating into a less fatal but likely more infective disease . . . the usual course of such dread diseases. Its spread has been facilitated by poor nutrition, non-existent sanitation and the proliferation of burial customs that keep the dearly departed around the house to continue to infect. In short, this book is well-worth reading. There are a lot of facts here that the average person does NOT know . . . including the fact that many of these

vaccines can actually spread a form of the very disease being vaccinated against and that past vaccination doesn't actually protect you from it. There are some things that are likely worth the risk of vaccination-such as tetanus and your dog's rabies vaccine. Others likely may protect against childhood diseases-for a time-but the possible bad reaction can affect a child for life. Is it worth it? You decide.

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