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The Meaning of Addiction: An Unconventional View (Paperback)

By Stanton Peele

John Wiley Sons Inc, United States, 1998. Paperback. Condition: New. 1998 Reissued Paper Edition. Language: English . Brand New Book. A controversial and persuasive analysis of addiction A tour de force, a spectacular effort of research and understanding. This book gives us the courage to bypass disease notions to deal with intrapsychic, family system, and social and cultural dynamics in addiction. ?David Cook, Counseling and Psychological Services, University of Wisconsin This compelling and controversial book challenges the widely accepted belief that alcohol and drug addiction have a genetic or biological basis. The so-called disease theory suggests that a substance or activity can cause the addict to lose control of his behavior. Stanton Peele demonstrates how this notion fails to make sense of scientific observations. Analyzing studies of drug and cigarette addiction, alcoholism, obesity, and other potential compulsions such as running and sex, Peele reveals the surprising frequency of self-cure as part of the evidence. The author finds that compulsive habits and dependency are a way of coping that individuals can reverse as their life circumstances change. This brilliantly argued book is sure to provoke discussion and stimulate new approaches to treatment.



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