

[PDF] The Boy Who Couldn't Stop Washing: The Experience And Treatment Of Obsessive- Compulsive Disorder

M.D. Judith L. Rapoport - pdf download free book

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a widespread psychiatric disease yet one virtually unknown to the public, according to Rapoport, a child psychiatrist at the National Institute of Mental Health. She cites surveys indicating that as many as four million Americans are afflicted with a need to perform complex, pointless rituals, or are burdened by crippling obsessions with petty thoughts. Some sufferers check light-switches or doors endlessly; others spend hours creating trivial symmetryshoelaces exactly matching, eyebrows identical; still others have a

compulsion to touch, count, hoard or confess; some enact toilet or eating rituals. Very few of the afflicted seek professional treatment: most attempt to conceal their condition even from friends and family. Rapoport holds that psychoanalysis usually fails to uncover the underlying causes of an obsessional pattern; she leans toward a behavioral approach, noting that the disorder often runs in families and pointing to biological factors. Casebook, shocking report and support tool all in one, this excellent volume is highly readable and free of jargon.

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Review "Deeply moving and impressive."

□Oliver Sacks, M.D., author of **Awakenings** and **The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat**

"Offers help to millions who suffer in silence."

□**Chicago Tribune**

"First-rate meticulous clinical observation and state-of-the-art laboratory studies illuminate an important human problem."

□Leon Eisenberg, M.D., Harvard Medical School

"This book, with its information and lively writing, and informed by the author's obvious compassion for her patients, makes an important contribution to understanding an intriguing and irrational illness."

□**The New York Times Book Review**

--This text refers to the edition.

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