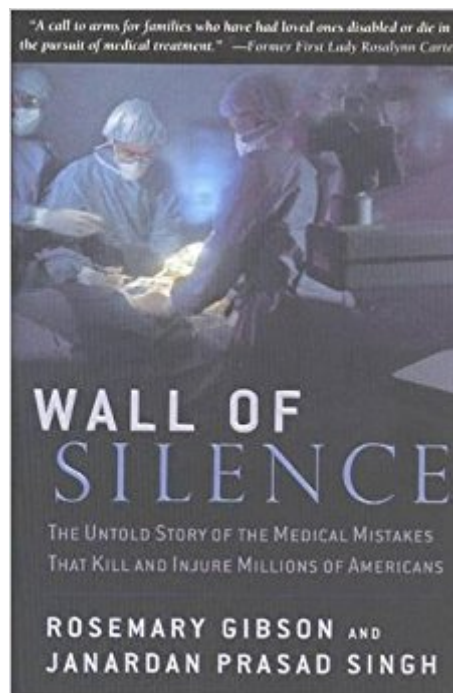




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Wall Of Silence: The Untold Story Of The Medical Mistakes That Kill And Injure Millions Of Americans



Synopsis

Medical mistakes occur with alarming frequency in this country. Nightly newscasts and daily newspapers tell of botched surgeries, mistaken patient identities, careless overdoses, and neglected diagnoses. You may have dismissed these stories as unfortunate mistakes, misunderstandings, or just isolated incidents with the occasional bad doctor. Wall of Silence reveals that these medical mistakes are not rare incidents with the occasional bad doctor. In fact, the real-life stories in this book show that medical mistakes are increasing in frequency; and worse, that the system is designed more to cover up these errors than prevent them.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A call to arms for families who have had loved ones disabled or dying in the pursuit of medical treatment... Well written and researched... highlights this timely topic in a unique way that will evoke the reader's own experiences."

I'm not sure whether this is the most frightening book I've ever read or the most depressing. Maybe both. The problem is not the book itself, which should be read by everyone. The problem is the horrific situation it describes--the huge numbers of people harmed, maimed, or killed by the medical system. It is believed that 100,000 people are killed each year by medical errors--that's 1,000,000 people per decade--and almost nothing is being done about it. If truck drivers killed 100,000 people each year, they would be put in prison, they would be on the 6:00 news, their names would be publicized, and probably trucks would be banned. If policemen killed 100,000 people each year, the riots and violence in the streets would be unimaginable. But if doctors and nurses kill 100,000

people each year, nothing happens. They're not arrested, they're rarely sued, their names are not made public, and the system unites in a gigantic coverup. Medical professionals continue to be respected by society when actually this is the least respectable profession because they routinely get away with killing people. I already knew about this situation because I've read many books on the subject, and I commend the authors for their role in bringing it to the attention of the public, many of whom will be in the next group of victims. Every book counts, and this one packs a wallop. But the big question is what can you do to bring about change? The authors tell us that we need change in societal attitudes, laws, education of doctors, and hospital protocols, and that people should lobby for change. Agreed. But a potential victim in a hospital bed isn't going to be able to do any of that. Those changes will take decades, which means millions of deaths. So what can a patient do? According to the authors, he can inform himself in every way possible regarding his condition, his medical records, his treatment, his doctor and other medical professionals, and his hospital. That's fine, but it doesn't automatically offer protection. They suggest hiring a private duty nurse, but then they tell you that "some of the private duty nurses work at the hospital and do this as moonlighting." Do you really expect a hospital employee to fight for you against doctors who are their colleagues and administrators who are their bosses? That's a big expense and all you're getting is more of the same. So, again, what can you do? I guess you better not get sick, and if you do, you better deal with it in some way that doesn't involve hospitals. It would be nice if the authors had an answer, but maybe there just isn't any.

No one wants to know the information in this book, but it's vital that you do. Rosemary is a compelling writer, offering visual narratives about complicated issues. She is also even-handed in her writing, avoiding the screechy voice of a screed but maintaining a firm stance that the "wall of silence" about medical errors is unacceptable. Though this book is 10 years old now, unfortunately it is still relevant. Illuminating for all who need to understand the culture of medicine. Highly recommended.

As a healthcare worker it was a real eye opener. A must read for all healthcare workers to appreciate wearing the other shoe.

There are some excellent books on this topic, but this is one of the best. The cases reviewed reveals the underlying reasons why such errors occur and more importantly, uncovers the many ways in which the medical profession engages in unethical acts of subterfuge in desperate attempts

to keep the dirt well hidden under the rug. Every patient will benefit from the information presented, instilling an awareness of the red flags they would have ignored without this knowledge. This book never received the exposure it well deserves.

I think every new medical professional should be made to read it prior to entering workforce and/or right before graduation just so that they can grasp the importance of preventing medical errors.

In order to win at a game, you must know the rules. When they are hidden, players lose. Rosemary Gibson helps break the wall of silence and empower patients and loved ones.

Great Product. Highly Recommended.

Great, clean copy! Thank you :)

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