

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Psychiatry vs Ancient Wisdom: THE GREAT HEALING DIVIDE](#)

Rsynced - August 20, 2025, 9:31 pm

????? THE GREAT HEALING DIVIDE ?????

Psychiatry vs Ancient Wisdom: Who Really Invented Mental Health Care?

A deep dive into the clash between traditional shamanic healing and modern psychiatric institutions

? CONTROVERSIAL STATEMENT ?

Quote:"Psychiatry was invented by the wealthy, shaman would heal native tribes and real medicine has existed beyond history records"

This explosive statement cuts to the heart of one of the most important debates in human history: Who gets to define "mental health" and how should we heal the mind?

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? Part 2: The Rise of Western Psychiatry

? Part 3: How Traditional Systems Were Destroyed

? Part 4: What Is "Real" Medicine?

? Part 5: The Power Behind Mental Health

? Part 6: Where Do We Go From Here?

??? PART 1: THE ANCIENT WAY - SHAMANIC HEALING TRADITIONS

For tens of thousands of years, Indigenous cultures worldwide understood "madness" in ways that would shock modern psychiatrists:

Code ? Traditional View | ? Modern View

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? Spiritual Crisis/Calling | ? Chemical Imbalance

? Community Integration | ? Individual Treatment

? Natural Remedies & Ritual | ? Pharmaceutical Intervention

? Healer + Community | ??? Doctor + Patient

? THE SHAMANIC APPROACH: ? Spiritual Framework: "Madness" = spiritual awakening, vision, or divine calling

? Holistic Healing: Herbs, drumming, fasting, vision quests, energy work

? Community Role: "Crazy" people often became healers, seers, or spiritual guides

? Interconnected Healing: Person + family + community + spirits = whole system

? MIND-BLOWING FACT: Many Indigenous cultures had NO WORD for "mental illness" because they saw altered states as spiritual gifts, not diseases!

? PART 2: THE PSYCHIATRIC REVOLUTION - HOW THE WEALTHY TOOK OVER

? THE DARK TRUTH ?

Modern psychiatry didn't emerge from medical discovery. It emerged from social control.

Code ? Timeline	? What Happened	? Who Funded It
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1700s-1800s	Rise of Asylums	Wealthy Elites
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Industrial Rev.	"Madhouses" for Unproductive	Factory Owners
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1800s-1900s	Medical Authority Over Mind	Government + Private Money
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? THE REAL PURPOSE:

Quote: Psychiatry wasn't created to heal people. It was created to manage people who couldn't fit into the new industrial work system. ? Medicalization: Took "madness" away from families/communities -> gave it to doctors/institutions

? Power Grab: Wealthy elites decided who was "normal" and who needed to be locked up

? Social Control: Anyone who couldn't work in factories = "mentally defective"

? PART 3: THE GENOCIDE OF HEALING - HOW THEY DESTROYED ANCIENT WISDOM

??? COLONIAL DESTRUCTION:

The replacement of shamanic healing with psychiatry wasn't an accident. It was systematic cultural genocide.

The Brutal Timeline of Healing Suppression ([Click to View](#))

? Phase 1: Demonization

- Traditional healers labeled as "witches," "savages," "superstitious"
- Sacred plants criminalized (peyote, ayahuasca, cannabis)
- Healing ceremonies banned as "devil worship"

? Phase 2: Religious Conversion

- Christian missions forced conversion
- Native spiritual practices replaced with Western religion
- Shamans persecuted, imprisoned, or killed

? Phase 3: "Scientific" Authority

- Western medicine declared itself the only "real" medicine
- Indigenous knowledge dismissed as "primitive superstition"
- Psychiatric institutions became the only "legitimate" healing centers

? THE RESULT: Thousands of years of healing wisdom nearly wiped out in just 200-300 years.

? PART 4: WHAT IS "REAL" MEDICINE? - THE EVIDENCE

? LET'S GET REAL ABOUT RESULTS ?

Code ? Traditional Healing	? Track Record	? Modern Psychiatry	? Track Record
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Used for 50,000+ years	? Survived millennia	Used for 200 years	? Still experimental
Plant medicines	? Now proven by science	Synthetic drugs	? Side effects
Community integration	? Lower suicide rates	Individual treatment	? Rising suicide rates
Holistic approach	? Treats root causes	Symptom management	? Chronic patients

? TRADITIONAL WINS: Meditation, breathwork, herbal medicine now backed by modern research
Psychedelic therapy (psilocybin, MDMA) showing incredible results
Community-based healing reduces relapse rates
Indigenous suicide rates were historically much lower than modern rates

? PSYCHIATRIC CONTRIBUTIONS: Crisis intervention can save lives
Some medications help severe conditions (bipolar, schizophrenia)
Research into brain chemistry provides insights

? PART 5: THE POWER GAME - WHO CONTROLS MENTAL HEALTH?

? FOLLOW THE MONEY ?

Quote: "He who controls the definition of sanity controls society."

The Mental Health Industrial Complex ([Click to View](#))

? Big Pharma

- \$240+ billion industry
- Profits from chronic patients, not cures
- Funds psychiatric research and training

? Insurance Companies

- Decide what treatments are "covered"
- Prefer quick fixes over long-term healing
- Shape treatment standards

? Government Control

- Can declare anyone "mentally unfit"
- Controls licensing of healers
- Defines what's "legal" medicine

??? Medical Establishment

- Protects monopoly on healing
- Suppresses alternative treatments
- Controls medical education

? THE KEY DIFFERENCE: ? Traditional Systems: Served the community and spirit

? Modern Psychiatry: Serves institutions and markets

? PART 6: THE VERDICT - WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

? THE BOTTOM LINE ?

The evidence is clear: Modern psychiatry WAS invented by wealthy elites to manage populations that didn't fit industrial society. It systematically destroyed older, often more effective healing systems through colonialism and cultural suppression.

? BUT HERE'S THE NUANCED TRUTH: Not everything in psychiatry is evil or useless

Not everything in traditional healing is perfect
The best path forward might be integration, not elimination

? DISCUSSION STARTERS ?

? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have you experienced both traditional and modern mental health treatment? How did they compare?

Do you think the "mental health crisis" is actually a spiritual crisis?

Should psychedelic medicines be legalized for healing?

How can we reclaim healing from corporate control?

What would mental healthcare look like if Indigenous wisdom led the way?

? YOUR TURN TO SPEAK ?

? Share your thoughts & experiences below! ?

Let's have a real conversation about the future of healing...

Here is a curated list of reputable sources with URLs covering the main topics and information in my thread:

Origins and History of Psychiatry

The Emergence of Psychiatry: 1650-1850 (PubMed)

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35331024/>

History of Psychiatry (Wikipedia)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_psychiatry

A Brief History of Psychiatry by Steven Reidbord, MD

<https://www.stevenreidbordmd.com/history-of-psychiatry>

Psychiatry Overview (Wikipedia)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychiatry>

The Troubled History of Psychiatry (The New Yorker)

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/05/27/the-troubled-history-of-psychiatry>

Indigenous Shamanic Healing Traditions

Indigenous Shamanism Peru: Sacred Healing Traditions

<https://www.peru-explorer.com/indigenous-shamanism-peru-sacred-healing-traditions.htm>

Indigenous Women, Healing, and Colonial Violence (CWIS)

<https://cwis.org/2025/04/indigenous-women-traditional-medicine-and-resistance/>

Colonial Suppression of Traditional Medicine

Uncovering Traditional Medicine's Colonial Past (Number Analytics)

<https://www.numberanalytics.com/blog/traditional-medicine-colonialism-legacy>

Indigenous Women, Healing, and the Violence of Colonialism (CWIS)
<https://cwis.org/2025/04/indigenous-women-traditional-medicine-and-resistance/>

Traditional Medicine vs Modern Psychiatry
Traditional vs. Modern Approaches to Psychiatric Services
<https://conventionspc.com/traditional-vs-modern-approaches-to-psychiatric-services/>

The Role of Global Traditional and Complementary Systems of Medicine (PMC)
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4456435/>

Psychiatric Institutionalization and Deinstitutionalization
Deinstitutionalization Overview (PBS)
<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/asylums/special/excerpt.html>

Deinstitutionalisation (Wikipedia)
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deinstitutionalisation>

Psychedelic Therapy Research
Hallucinogens in Mental Health: Preclinical and Clinical Studies (PMC)
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7880300/>

Exploring Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy (McLean Hospital)
<https://www.mcleanhospital.org/essential/psychedelics>

Influence of Pharmaceutical Companies on Psychiatry
The Influence of Pharmaceutical Companies in Psychiatry (PMC)
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7451317/>

How Drug Companies Helped Shape a Shifting Biological View of Mental Illness (NPR)
<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/05/02/718744068/how-drug-companies-helped-shape-a-shifting-biological-view-of-mental-illness>

This list covers the historical development of psychiatry, shamanic healing traditions, colonial impacts on traditional medicine, psychiatric institutionalization, modern psychedelic research, and Big Pharma's role.

mrclay - October 9, 2025, 9:15 pm

Why I'm not seeing any replies on such beautiful thread.

Rsynced - October 10, 2025, 4:16 am

(Oct 9, 2025 09:15 PM)mrclay Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Why I'm not seeing any replies on such beautiful thread. Thanks, maybe a bit over the top for most. ???

RangoWorld - October 11, 2025, 7:06 am

Really good thread.

In my own experience if I have to add here. There was a lot of wisdom in old philosophy indeed.

Rsynced - October 11, 2025, 3:12 pm

(Oct 11, 2025 07:06 AM)RangoWorld Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Really good thread.

In my own experience if I have to add here. There was a lot of wisdom in old philosophy indeed.

Thanks, I am glad you enjoyed my research. ????