Mental Health and Human Rights: Vision, Praxis, and Courage

Valuable for mental-health and helping professionals, lawyers, philosophers, human-rights workers, and their organisations, for example, the UN and other international agencies.

This book is the first comprehensive survey of the mental health/human rights relationship. It examines the relationships and histories of mental health and human rights, and their interconnections with law, culture, ethnicity, class, economics, biology, and stigma. It investigates the responsibilities of states in securing the rights of those with mental disabilities, the predicaments of specific vulnerable groups, and the challenge of promoting and protecting mental health in general. In this wide-ranging analysis, many themes recur - for example, the enormous mental health burdens caused by war and social conflicts; the need to include mental-health interventions in humanitarian programs in a manner that does not undermine traditional healing and recovery processes of indigenous peoples; and the imperative to reduce gender-based violence and inequities.