



Theory of Addiction

Robert West, Jamie Brown

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The word ‘addiction’ these days is used to refer to a chronic condition where there is an unhealthily powerful motivation to engage in a particular behaviour. This can be driven by many different factors – physiological, psychological, environmental and social. If we say that it is all about X, we miss V, W, Y and Z. So, some people think addicts are using drugs to escape from unhappy lives, feelings of anxiety and so on; many are. Some people think drugs become addictive because they alter the brain chemistry to create powerful urges; that is often true. Others think that drug taking is about seeking after pleasure; often it is. Some take the view that addiction is a choice – addicts weigh up the pros and cons of doing what they do and decide the former outweigh the latter. Yet others believe that addicts suffer from poor impulse control; that is often true... And so it goes on.

When you look at the evidence, you see that all these positions capture important aspects of the problem – but they are not complete explanations. Neuroscience can help us delve more deeply into some of these explanations, while the behavioural and social sciences are better at exploring others. We need a model that puts all this together in a way that can help us decide what to do in different cases. Should we prescribe a drug, give the person some ‘tender loving care’, put them in prison or what? *Theory of Addiction* provides this synthesis.

The first edition was well received:


‘Throughout the book the reader is exposed to a vast number of useful observations...The theoretical aims are timely, refreshing, ambitious and above all challenging. It opens up a new way of looking at addiction and has the potential to move the field of addiction a considerable leap forward. Thus we wholeheartedly would like to recommend the book for students as well as scholars. Read and learn!’ *Nordic Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*

‘The book provides a comprehensive review of existing theories - over 30 in all - and this synthesis of theories constitutes an important contribution in and of itself... West is to be commended for his synthesis of addiction theories that span neurobiology, psychology and social science and for his insights into what remains unexplained.’ *Addiction*

This new edition of *Theory of Addiction* builds on the first, including additional theories in the field, a more developed specification of PRIME theory and analysis of the expanding evidence base.

With this important new information, *Theory of Addiction* will continue to be essential reading for all those working in addiction, from student to experienced practitioner – as urged above, Read and learn!

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Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information these days can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even a problem. What people must be consider while those information which is in the former life are difficult to be find than now's taking seriously which one is suitable to believe or which one typically the resource are convinced. If you receive the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take Theory of Addiction as your daily resource information.

Douglas Dossett:

The actual book Theory of Addiction has a lot of information on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was written by the very famous author. Tom makes some research prior to write this book. That book very easy to read you will get the point easily after scanning this book.

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