



## The Loss of Sadness: How psychiatry transformed normal sorrow into depressive disorder (Hardback)

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By Allan V. Horwitz, Jerome C. Wakefield

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2007. Hardback. Condition: New. 2., A1/4berarb. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. The Loss of Sadness argues that the increased prevalence of major depressive disorder is due not to a genuine rise in mental disease, but to the way that normal human sadness has been pathologised since 1980. That year saw the publication of the landmark third edition of The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-III), which has since become a dominant force behind our current understanding of mental illness overall. As concerns at least major depression, the authors argue that the DSM's definition of the condition is too broad and that as a result virtually all research and clinical approaches to the condition have been based on a flawed understanding about it. The social, political, and scientific implications of this are far-reaching - from the overselling of antidepressants to treat ordinary sadness, as Big Pharma exploits the DSM for its own purposes; to intrusive and expensive depression screening programs at all levels of society, as well-meaning but misguided initiatives translate the DSM into simple terms to catch any whiff of depressive pathology in our midst;...



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