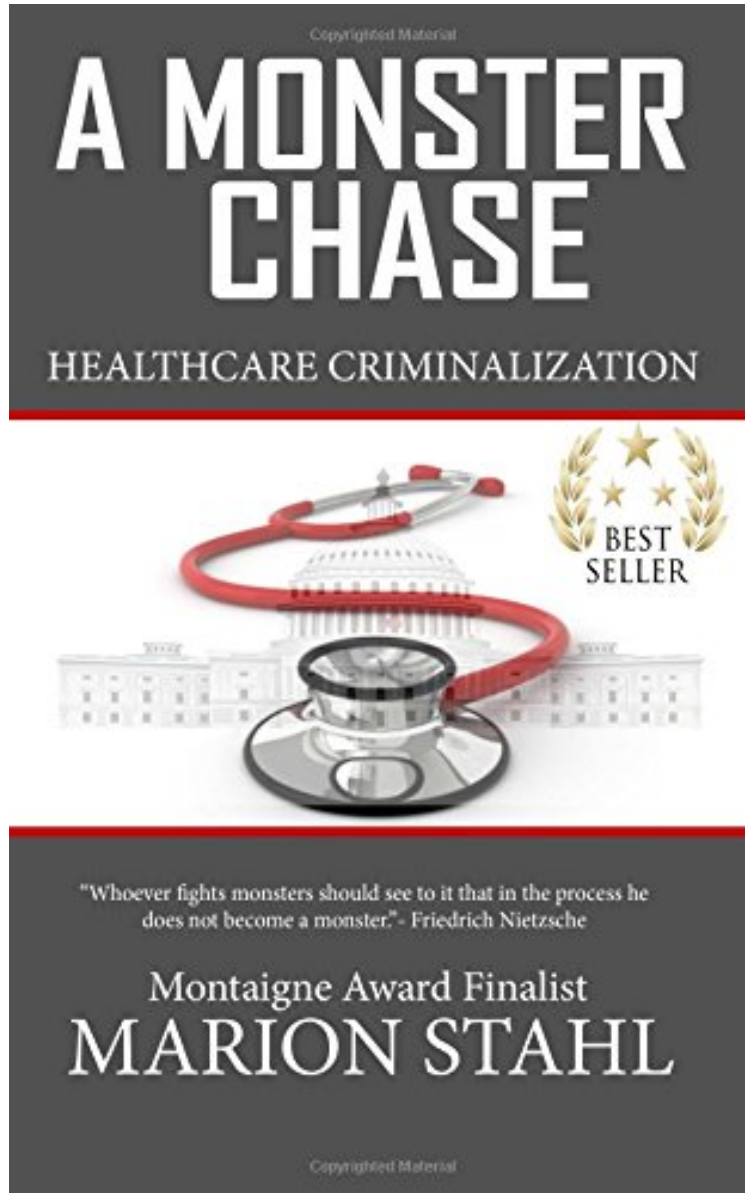


a Monster Chase: Health Care Criminalization

Marion A. Stahl

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Marion A. Stahl : a Monster Chase: Health Care Criminalization before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised a Monster Chase: Health Care Criminalization:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. `Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process he does not become a monster.'- Friedrich Nietzsche By Grady Harp Australian born author Marion A. Stahl, now living near

Washington DC, has 30 years of experience in the health care sector as a medical writer: she is also the author of 'A Modern Salem Witch Trial', 'Anita', 'Anita's Piano: A Witness to History' and 'Hope and Perseverance'. She has received many honors for her work in the field of medicine. And if committing the words of a modern day WW II survivor of heroic experiences into the form of a memoir about the indomitable core of the human soul can be considered both medical as well as historical novel material, then Stahl has reached a zenith. As is Marion's bent she has written a new book to investigate the multiple facets of the problematic status of American Medicine. Few writers have the ability to present a case for the need for change as well as Marion's realistic, carefully considered from all angles stance. She brings not only her own history into play but instead of creating tropes to identify as characters she instead refers to well considered life situations. The result: a profoundly moving book that holds a magnifying glass to medicine in this country. 'My husband Paul, known as 'Doc Fournier' in town, is busy with a booming family medical practice. He works very long hours and sees up to forty patients a day. His high demand is due to a shortage of general medical practitioners. I am the Editor for the Harvard Health Newsletter.' And so we know our fictional character's background and her personal story of encountering long waits in emergency rooms, similar stories from her friends that opens her investigation of the paucity of providers, and now outright denial of medical treatments. She brings the reader 'on a mystery hunt of what I have learned so far. The topic, our present health care will be the subject of this novel. I can think a many great scenes for this endeavor. My intensions are not to create fear of hospitals or doctors. I would like to paint a better understanding by bringing readers to the back room of these offices. Perhaps it could bring some light as to why we have a shortage of physicians and why we have lost so many valuable one.' As a well written example she relates the practice and life of one Dr. Helene Quaile whose devotion to the well-being and care and health of her patients gets mired down in the modus operandi of manipulators, the corruption of payers such as insurance companies, the plethora of lawyers and the growing paucity of physicians who have become disenchanted with the concept of healing with the increasing encroachment of technical instrumentation both for treatment of disease and the charging of fees for patients who at times fall into the category of facilitators. 'Our reimbursement system rewards those who perform "procedures," but not physician's time taking a good history that might save on cost of tests, In other words; one is paid more for looking in a patient's rectum as in performing sigmoidoscopies and colonoscopies, and almost none for speaking to them, listening to their symptoms and making a wise decision of whether to send them for procedures.' 'I was worried about what was happening in the medical field. The news was dominated by stories of problems with physicians and roadblocks in healthcare, but none of them made sense to me. Doctors' fees accounted for less than a fourth of our total health care costs, and yet the media pointed fingers at them as if they were felons who overcharged for their services. How would lower doctors fees solve high healthcare costs, though? Our country appeared more and more legalistic and bureaucratic, and the future of the entire field seemed bleak.' This book is not simple an expos (though it is that, too) but a novel of compassion and caring and concern by one very talented writer and humanist. Highly Recommended for those in the healthcare fields and for all beings who may at some point be a patient. Grady Harp, August 152 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A bureaucratic legal monstrosity By Ian J. Miller This is fiction that presents in a documentary form the case that America's medical system is broken. I do not know how valid the points made in the novel are, and this review is based on the assumption they are valid. The argument is that approximately 100,000 general medical practitioners have had their licenses revoked by court action, mainly following the Clinton period efforts to reduce medical costs, and which have presumably been kept going ever since. The story follows Anna, who happens to know a Doctor Helene Quaile, and Helene stops practicing for health reasons, and to keep pests away, keeps all her correspondence coming through a mail center. Enter a prosecutor, who gets "points" for the number of doctors he can decommission, and Helene is an easy target because when he sends notices to out-of-date addresses, she does not receive them, and hence does not turn up to defend herself against trumped up charges. What eventuates is a corrupt bureaucratic nightmare, with a touch of Kafka, except that Helene is not objecting because she is unaware. This is a specific example, but according to the author, the points made are general. What follows is an account of the court proceedings, and a note on the economics. Such a doctor accused should roll over, give the prosecutor what he wants, or fight a legal battle that won't be won, but will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees. This is a terrible indictment of the American legal system, the insurance system, and the bureaucracy on doctors. The documentary form is done very well, and it feels as if it could be true. The characters, other than Anna, are more caricatures, aimed at painting the plot, but then again, that is a technique that Dickens made his own to show sociological problems. Stahl is not up to Dickens' writing standard, but who is? Apart from some editing issues, well done. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Humanizes an often-debatable topic By LESLIE OBRIENA Monster Chase is the first novel by Marion Stahl and touches upon a topic prevalent to most everyone living in the US, health care. Except that this fictionalized account is told from the perspective of providers. Through Anna, we learn why many doctors are choosing to limit which health insurances they accept, limit their scope of practice, shift into a protected medical group, or leave the medical field entirely. And while yes, most of the reasons have to do with money and a deep frustration with the ever-tightening hold of bureaucracy that is stifling doctors abilities to practice medicine and treat their patients. For me, by humanizing an often-debatable topic takes it out of the realm of politics and brings it home where it should be.

Moreover, it gives faces to those who are stuck in the middle of it all the physicians who are often villainized or exploited for profit and/or illegal gain. And more importantly, at least for me, it reminds me to thank those who work so hard to help those who come to see them, even when they aren't successful. *A Monster Chase* does the one thing that all the discussions, politics, arguments, lectures, and legislation can't do. By humanizing very real topics, it reminds us that there are people there; many of whom are fighting a system with increasing insurmountable odds.

A Bestseller in Medical Law Legislation, this book offers a new look at the current approaches used to address problems found in medical care. While reading a fiction, readers are able to explore the back office of medical practices and gain a better understanding of providers while looking for the real 'Monster' depleting the profession of medicine. "We thank you for bringing attention to this serious and growing problem." Jane M. Orient, Executive Director, AAPS -American Association of Physicians Surgeons. "A book worth reading: This story is especially timely now that the health care reform is being implemented, as the new law will create a new raft of regulations that could make it even more difficult for doctors to practice medicine." Michael Tanner, Senior Fellow, Health Care, Cato Institute. "The *Monster Chase* explores several issues facing healthcare professionals. These issues stem from misinformation and corruption which arise out of the complex bureaucratic nature of the modern healthcare industry." Danny McCorry, Health Policy Research at The Heritage Foundation, Georgetown University School of Medicine. "Fascinating Read, an eye-opening and provocative book." Cynthia Westland. "Timely for the current health care debate." Elgon B. Williams, Florida, Purdue University, Radio and Television Production. "There are few books that have captured my attention like 'The *Monster Chase*' did." David MacDonald, co-founder of SimpleCare, and President of Liberty Health. "Great read, on both sides of the examination table.." Kevin Sirmons, Minnesota, Medical Director, NAEMSE, NREMT, AAFP. Readers comments: "A smart novel that puts together fiction with reality." "Realistic and gripping" "Touches upon a topic prevalent to most everyone living in the US, health care." "A quick and interesting page turner." More: AMonsterChase.com

"We thank you for bringing attention to this serious and growing problem." Jane M. Orient, Executive Director, AAPS -American Association of Physicians Surgeons. "A book worth reading." Michael Tanner, Senior Fellow, Health Care, Cato Institute. "The *Monster Chase* explores several issues facing healthcare professionals." Danny McCorry, Health Policy Research at The Heritage Foundation, George Town University School of Medicine. "Great read, on both sides of the examination table.." Kevin Sirmons, Minnesota, Medical Director, NAEMSE, NREMT, AAFP. About the Author: About the Author: Marion A. Stahl is a Montaigne Award Finalist. She has 30 years of experience in the health care sector and conducts extensive research on the topics she writes about. She has been involved with major organizations in the medical field, such as AMWA, the American Writers Association, the AMA, AARP, the Association of CFE. She graduated with honors and contributed to many books on health care and health topics. She has received many honors for her work in the field of medicine.