Discussion Guide

Viral BS
Seema Yasmin MD

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Health Misinformation

Summary

A collection of articles about medical myths, propagation and genesis of misinformation, rampant pseudoscience, and dark episodes of unethical medical practices including human medical experimentations and false publications in reputed journals. The forty-six "debunking" articles have a journalistic vibe to them and comprise of historical facts, quotations from physicians, scientists, patients, and administrators involved in various cases. This book is quite relevant in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Questions

1. What do you think is particularly significant about this book?
2. Is there anything you wish the author had explored more deeply in the book? Was there anything missing?
3. Share a favorite quote from this book. Why did you choose this quote?
4. If you could ask the author of this book one question, what would it be?
5. What do you think of the book's title? How does it relate to the book's contents? What other title might be relevant to this book's subject matter?
6. Do the issues described in this book affect your life or do you think these issues could affect your life in the future?
7. What evidence does the author provide to support their central claims? Is the evidence that the author presents convincing to you?
8. Does the author offer solutions in this book to societal problems? How would you describe the author's call to action?
9. How does the book relate to current events concerning health misinformation? How might the book be useful to disrupt health misinformation?
10. Is the book accessible to a variety of people? If not, what would improve the book's accessibility?

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