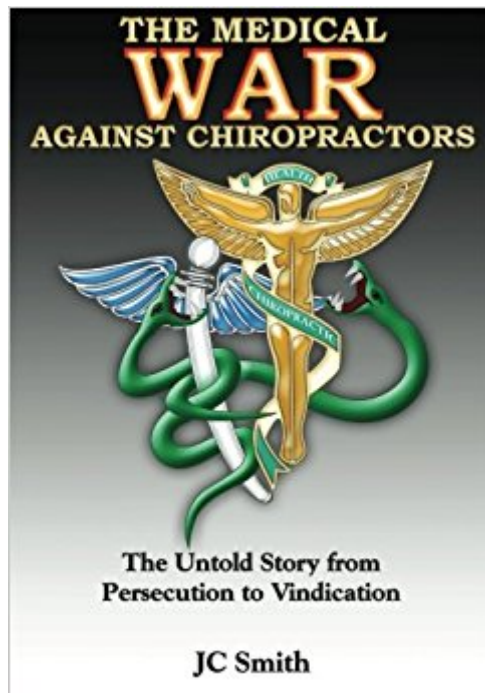


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# The Medical War Against Chiropractors: The Untold Story From Persecution To Vindication



## Synopsis

Historically the medical profession has waged many much-heralded "wars", such as the war against polio, the war against cancer and the latest wars on heart disease, obesity, and tobacco. But without question the longest war fought by the American Medical Association has been against chiropractors. The American Medical Association was once dubbed "the most terrifying trade association on earth," a truth the chiropractic profession experienced when 12,000 chiropractors were arrested in the first half of the twentieth century simply for helping patients with only their hands. A pivotal point in this war, an antitrust case, *Wilk v. the AMA*, occurred when court testimony revealed the AMA's "Final Solution for the chiropractic menace" to be the "complete elimination of the chiropractic profession." They called chiropractors "rabid dogs", "killers", an "unscientific cult", and "a danger to public safety." When taken to task in court, the AMA could not provide one witness to prove these accusations; it was purely propaganda. They lost the case, but the war has continued unabated. This ruthless war against chiropractors revealed a dark chapter in American medicine that few people have seen, but chiropractors know well. Ironically, research now confirms there is more proof for chiropractic care than back surgery, which has been "accused of leaving more tragic human wreckage in its wake than any other operation in history." After a century assailing chiropractic as quackery, the table has finally turned with the medical profession now on the defensive, a fact the public has yet to hear but is well documented in this book with the latest scientific findings. The purpose of this book is to discuss this dark chapter in medical history – the events, tactics, and characters involved in political medicine's war against the chiropractic profession from persecution to vindication. This is the untold story of the medical war against chiropractic from persecution to vindication that could only be told by a chiropractic advocate.

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## Customer Reviews

JC Smith graduated with a BS from the University of California at Berkeley where he experienced the Free Speech Movement. He later received his MA in the Sociology of Sport while coaching at Rutgers University, and he attained his DC degree from Life Chiropractic College, graduating with honors. Although his educational background had a strong foundation, it would not prepare him from the battles he encountered in the medical war against chiropractors he has experienced over his 33-year career. Dr. Smith realized the role of a chiropractor was clouded by innuendo, boldface slander, and prejudice stemming from the medical profession. As a man who was always on top of the heap as an outstanding student, an All-American athlete in college, and an adventurer rafting the great white-water rivers of the wild West, his encounter with the medical bias left him frustrated. Compounding this medical discrimination was the trail of failed back surgery victims who came seeking his help. Time and time again he realized these patients had been misdiagnosed, mistreated, and misinformed when simple yet effective chiropractic care solved their misery. Instead, when patients ask if chiropractic might help, they were often told not to do so because it might paralyze them, which is complete nonsense but effective to scare patients into spine surgery. This first-hand view of the collateral damage of the medical war prompted him to expose this tragedy to the public—a story any veteran chiropractor could tell. This task became a labor of love as he piled through the volumes of research on spine care that began as far back as the early 1990s showing the misguided disc theory that has led to an epidemic of back pain and failed surgery. Moreover, the history of this war between the AMA and chiropractic was a part of American history never before revealed to the public. In fact, the medical bigotry toward chiropractic can be traced back to one man, Morris Fishbein, who headed the AMA for a quarter of a century. Not only did Fishbein soil the chiropractors' reputation with propaganda, he also laid the foundation of antitrust activity that led to a federal court trial that began in 1976 and ended in 1990. As a writer and as a chiropractor, JC Smith gives the reader a first-hand account of the experiences only a chiropractor can tell—the untold story of chiropractic from persecution to vindication.

Very informative and it is interesting that some doctors still don't get it and are still fighting the war. especially surgeons.

Armed to the teeth with a mountain of laboriously researched scientific evidence, and the passion of a mother grizzly bear defending her young, Smith determinedly annihilates the Marcus Welby facade of the AMA--exposing hypocrisy, duplicity, and greed. Embracing Nazi-like tactics of propaganda, demagoguery, and character assassination, the AMA is striving for, "...the complete elimination of the chiropractic profession." When one considers that chiropractors are in direct competition with back surgeons, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out the motivation behind the attacks. This book is a must read if you are one of the millions of people who suffer from back pain and discomfort. Before taking a regimen of opioids or having back surgery (which has a much lower success rate than spinal manipulation), you owe it to yourself to first seek out care and advice from a chiropractor.

This is an interesting account of the AMA history of antitrust behavior. The chiropractic profession should be aware of its past and this book provides the historical accounts that describe the growth of a maligned health care profession. As a chiropractic orthopedist and professor, I strongly recommend the book for all chiropractors and chiropractic students.

Very eye opening, I knew medicine was big business, but this exposes not only corruption, but complete disregard for suffering human beings.

Chiropractic saved my life after a serious auto accident. The medics in 3 hospitals, and 2 States, hadn't a clue how to help, but a little doctor of chiropractic restored my health.

Dr. Smith is a brilliant essayist and encyclopedist -- like Diderot, who knows so much yet writes with such brevity, clarity and wit that you're not overburdened as a reader! You can trust that Dr. Smith has THE INSIDE STORY on this issue and presents all of this information in a memorable way! Everything that Dr. Smith wrote about has been confirmed in the daily news. In an editorial by the editor of an international spine research newsletter from Georgetown University, Mark Schoene declared that "Spinal medicine in the US is a poster child for inefficient spine care." Primary care physicians are likely to ignore recent guidelines that do not recommend narcotics for low back pain, and primary care physicians are more likely to suggest spine surgery than surgeons themselves! The medical approach has been shown to be a failure based on the inadequacies of the medical model for low back and cervical spinal pain. Previous studies have shown that diagnostic

uncertainty in the primary care setting is as high as 85% for the low back pain population. In the absence of an accurate clinical prediction rule (or diagnostic) system, physical interventions are applied to patients with an equal chance of failure or success. The total cost for the medical treatment of back pain are mind-numbing, calculated at \$85.9 billion in 2005, exceeded only by the 2007 outlay for cancer (\$89.0 billion), the cost of diabetes (\$98.1 billion), or heart disease and stroke (\$257.6 billion). In a study published in 2008, Martin, Deyo and others concluded that the average total health expenditure per person in the United States with spine problems was 73% greater than for individuals in other countries. Dr. Smith gives us the very latest information on the research outcomes for the treatment of low back pain and the information is astonishing! The fact that "the myth of disc disease" is so completely overturned BY THE EVIDENCE in Dr. Smith's book is a revelation! Considering how significant the cost savings and for fewer side effects (which increases costs over the lifetime of the unfortunate patient!) that can be realized with conservative interventions such as chiropractic as a first alternative in managing back pain, there should be little doubt that Dr. Smith is correct that the treatment of this widespread and costly condition should be first undertaken by the experts in spinal health care in the world...the chiropractic professional.-- by Dr. Scott Cuthbert, author of "Applied Kinesiology Essentials: The Missing Link in Health Care" (2014), and "Applied Kinesiology: Clinical Techniques for Lower Body Dysfunctions" (2013).

I wish I had known about the failure rate for back surgeries and the fact that for most patients it does not provide relief but leaves one with multiple other issues with which to deal for the rest of one's life. I would never have had the surgery that gave me a spinal fusion. Finally, relief from daily pain did come when my neurosurgeon referred me to Dr. Smith and stated that he felt that Dr. Smith could provide relief through spinal decompression techniques. Dr. Smith certainly did provide relief and is an excellent chiropractor. I found his book to be well researched and to contain facts that would help every American citizen who suffers from back pain. It should be a required read for every patient who is referred for back surgery! All medical doctors should be REQUIRED BY INSURANCE to refer patients to well-trained chiropractors as a method of treatment before surgery. It is a tremendous shame for American citizens today who have to pay rising insurance costs that less invasive methods of treatment are not even considered by medical doctors who refuse to make referrals to chiropractors and continue to even spread lies about harm that will be done by spinal manipulation or decompression. I have heard some of these lies firsthand! Insurance costs could be better contained if exclusivity did not exist for chiropractors! Huge groups of Americans are not

being annihilated like the Jews, but they are being INTENTIONALLY HARMED AND MISLED by medical doctors and the American Medical Association who profit financially from the large costs of back surgery! Way to go in telling the truth, Dr. Smith!

How has the media missed such a hot issue as that portrayed by Dr JC Smith in this well-documented book? Isn't it time for some authority to examine the frailties of monopolised health care system with a dubious efficacy and safety record? One where there has been active opposition to other models of health care.

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