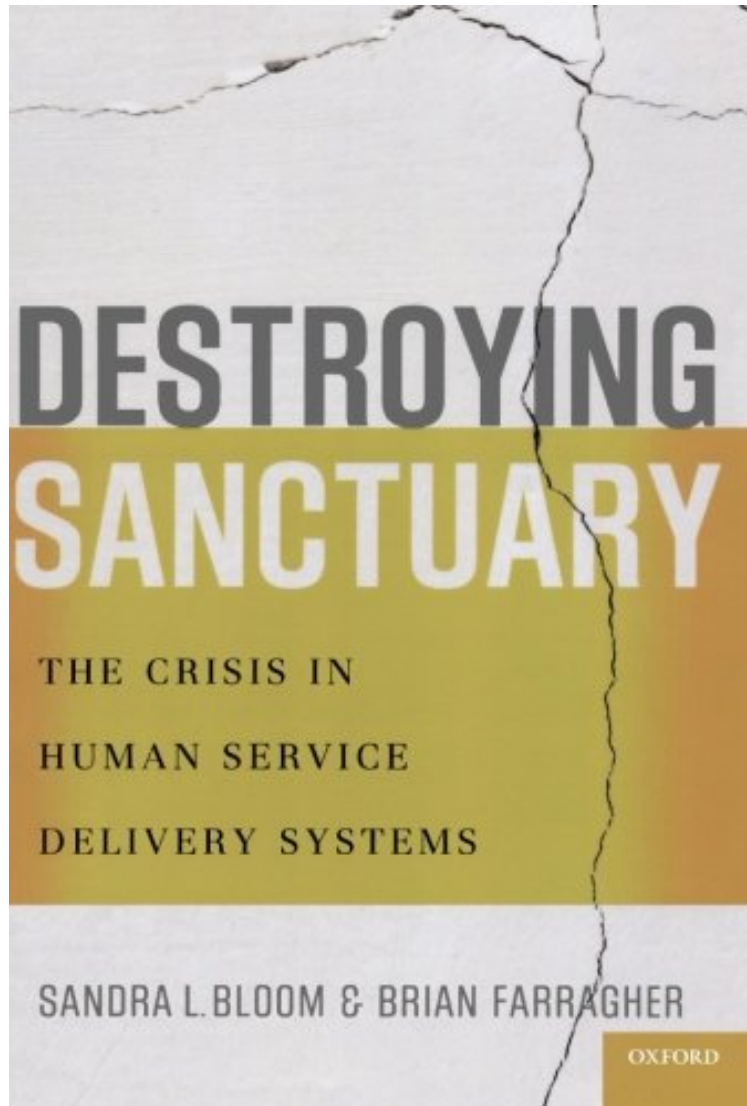


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Destroying Sanctuary: The Crisis in Human Service Delivery Systems

Sandra L. Bloom, Brian Farragher
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Sandra L. Bloom, Brian Farragher : Destroying Sanctuary: The Crisis in Human Service Delivery Systems
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Destroying Sanctuary:
The Crisis in Human Service Delivery Systems:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read...for everyone! By radley5 This book is suitable for all
adult readers, not just those working in the human services professions. The authors clearly explain trauma and
attachment theories, as well as modern brain science in language that is easy to understand. Through their expertise on

these subjects, they show how chronic exposure to stress and trauma is negatively impacting millions of individuals in our society and subsequently causing potentially irreparable harm to society as a whole. This book helped me to understand why people hurt other people and why it's crucial that we stop asking people, "What's wrong with you", and learn to start asking the more empathetic question, "What's happened to you?" Our collective future depends on it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By lonnie johnson Business mode; 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book By Liz Mullinar This book writes everything that we here in Australia at the Heal For Life Foundation believe in, follow and teach, so it was wonderful to read someone else with the same recognition of the need for huge change in delivery of Mental health Services. Let's hope health Services do not get privatised in Australia. This book is appropriate for anyone in contact with survivors of trauma.

For the last thirty years, the nation's mental health and social service systems have been under relentless assault, with dramatically rising costs and the fragmentation of service delivery rendering them incapable of ensuring the safety, security, and recovery of their clients. The resulting organizational trauma both mirrors and magnifies the trauma-related problems their clients seek relief from. Just as the lives of people exposed to chronic trauma and abuse become organized around the traumatic experience, so too have our social service systems become organized around the recurrent stress of trying to do more under greater pressure: they become crisis-oriented, authoritarian, disempowered, and demoralized, often living in the present moment, haunted by the past, and unable to plan for the future. Complex interactions among traumatized clients, stressed staff, pressured organizations, and a social and economic climate that is often hostile to recovery efforts recreate the very experiences that have proven so toxic to clients in the first place. Healing is possible for these clients if they enter helping, protective environments, yet toxic stress has destroyed the sanctuary that our systems are designed to provide. This thoughtful, impassioned critique of business as usual begins to outline a vision for transforming our mental health and social service systems. Linking trauma theory to organizational function, *Destroying Sanctuary* provides a framework for creating truly trauma-informed services. The organizational change method that has become known as the Sanctuary Model lays the groundwork for establishing safe havens for individual and organizational recovery. The goals are practical: improve clinical outcomes, increase staff satisfaction and health, increase leadership competence, and develop a technology for creating and sustaining healthier systems. Only in this way can our mental health and social service systems become empowered to make a more effective contribution to the overall health of the nation. *Destroying Sanctuary* is a stirring call for reform and recovery, required reading for anyone concerned with removing the formidable barriers to mental health and social services, from clinicians and administrators to consumer advocates.

"Health care and human services have become commodities, and caregivers are forced into a factory system where productivity has nothing to do with patient care. This volume forms the diagnosis; we can eagerly look forward to the next volume in which the authors promise a treatment plan." -Judith L. Herman, MD, Cambridge Hospital "This should be required reading for clinicians, administrators, public policy makers, and the general public. Sandra Bloom and Brian Farragher do nothing less than describe in gripping detail what is wrong with the mental and medical health service delivery systems as they have become profit-driven and dehumanized." -Christine A. Courtois, PhD, Associate Editor of *Psychological Trauma: Research, Theory, Practice Policy* "Sandra Bloom and Brian Farragher provide reflective readers with a wonderful description of human development and the observable steps by which we grow into content, productive people or become chronically distressed and physically ill. *Destroying Sanctuary* is particularly timely as we rethink various aspects of the U.S. medical care system, especially the cost of our comfortable inattention to the far-reaching impact of traumatic life experiences." -Vincent J. Felitti, MD, Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program and University of California "Bloom and Farragher challenge administrators to think in terms of reform and recovery, rather than falling back on our emphasis on 'fixing people' when in fact our systems need to be fixed. This is a rallying call for creating and sustaining healthier service systems." -Angie Logan, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare "Packed with wisdom, scientific evidence, and concepts that are vital to understanding and healing the 'chronic public health disaster' that is a consequence of endemic traumatic stress and adversity. Read it once and learn...study it and learn more." -Robert Anda, MD, MS, *Adverse Childhood Experiences* (About the Author) Sandra L. Bloom, MD, is Associate Professor of Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health, Drexel University. Brian Farragher, MBA, is Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, The Andrus Children's Center.