Position Statement on Abuse and Misuse of Psychiatry

The American Psychiatric Association supports the use of psychiatric knowledge, practice, and institutions only for purposes consistent with ethical evaluation and treatment, research consultation, and education. Abuse and misuse of psychiatry occur when psychiatric knowledge, assessment, or practice is used to further illegitimate organizational, social or political objectives.

This statement was developed by the Committee on Abuse and Misuse of Psychiatry in the U.S. of the Council on National Affairs: William M. Womack, M.D. (chair), Humberto L. Martinez, M.D., Harry Prosen, M.D., Alban J. Coghlan, M.D., Clifford Keith Moy, M.D., Robert V. De Silverio, M.D. (consultant), and Ledro R. Justice, M.D. (consultant).

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