



Witness to an Extreme Century

A MEMOIR

Robert Jay
Lifton

Witness To An Extreme Century

A Loxley



Witness To An Extreme Century:

Witness to an Extreme Century Robert Jay Lifton, 2011-06-14 On a fateful day in the spring of 1954 Robert Jay Lifton a young American psychiatrist just discharged from service in the Korean War decided to stay in Hong Kong rather than return home changing his life plans entirely so that he could continue work that had enthralled him interviewing people subjected to Chinese thought reform He had plunged into uncharted territory in probing the far reaches of the human psyche as he would repeatedly in the years ahead and his Hong Kong research provided the first understanding of the insidious process that came to be known as brainwashing From that day in Hong Kong forward Lifton has probed into some of the darkest episodes of human history bearing his unique form of psychological witness to the sources and consequences of collective violence and trauma as well as to our astonishing capacity for resilience In this long awaited memoir Lifton charts the adventurous and constantly surprising course of his fascinating life journey a journey that took him from what a friend of his called a Jewish Huck Finn childhood in Brooklyn to friendships with many of the most influential intellectuals writers and artists of our time from Erik Erikson David Riesman and Margaret Mead to Howard Zinn and Kurt Vonnegut Stanley Kunitz Kenzaburo Oe and Norman Mailer In his remarkable study of Hiroshima survivors he explored the human consequences of nuclear weapons and then went on to uncover dangerous forms of attraction to their power in the spiritual disease he calls nuclearism During riveting face to face interviews with Nazi doctors he illuminated the reversal of healing and killing in ordinary physicians who had been socialized to Nazi evil With Vietnam veterans he helped create unprecedented rap groups in which much was revealed about what we now call post traumatic stress disorder helping veterans draw upon their experience for valuable even prophetic insights about atrocity and war As a pioneer in psychohistory Lifton's encounters with the consequences of cruelty and destructiveness led him to become a passionate social activist lending a powerful voice of conscience to the suppressed truths of the Vietnam War and the dangers of nuclear weapons Written with the warmth of spirit along with the humor and sense of absurdity that have made Lifton a beloved friend and teacher to so many *Witness to an Extreme Century* is a moving and deeply thought provoking story of one man's extraordinary commitment to looking into the abyss of evil in order to help us move beyond it **Psychoanalysis, Trauma, and Community** Judith L. Alpert, Elizabeth R.

Goren, 2016-11-18 Trauma is one of the hottest contemporary topics within psychoanalysis whilst many psychoanalysts are increasingly interested in applying their skills outside the traditional setting of the consulting room especially in response to disasters wars and serious social issues *Psychoanalysis Trauma and Community* seeks to correct the misconceptions of what analysts do and how they do it and debunk the stereotype of psychoanalysts stuck in their offices plying their wares on the worried well Bringing together a group of eminent contributors this volume considers how psychoanalysis may best be expanded to help in social and community settings to understand these wider issues from a psychoanalytic perspective and provide clear clinical guidance and clinical examples of how best to work in a wide variety of non traditional ways The

innovative work featured includes taking testimony in situ interviewing documentary film making social activism ethnic and political conflict mediation on site workshops as well as direct clinical interventions The reader is taken from the Holocaust Hiroshima and the Vietnam War to the Balkan Wars and Palestinian Israeli conflict from the political violence of the disappeared in Argentina to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina and from chronic conditions of poverty in India to racism in the post Jim Crow South Psychoanalysis Trauma and Community will appeal to psychoanalysts psychoanalytic psychotherapists and anyone studying on the increasing number of trauma courses being given today in universities Lay readers with an interest in the traumatic fallout as a result of chronic conditions or the myriad disasters that occur globally will find this book illuminating For the non specialist mental health professional including non analytic psychotherapists social workers and others who work in the community this book offers concrete advice on dealing with intervention issues such as entry and integration as well as on management of multiple and complex trauma in a non clinical setting

The Instability of Truth Rebecca Lemov, 2025-03-25 An acclaimed historian of science uncovers the hidden history of brainwashing and its troubling implications for today Because brainwashing affects both the world and our observation of the world we often don't recognize it while it's happening unless we know where to look As Rebecca Lemov writes in *The Instability of Truth* Brainwashing erases itself What we call brainwashing is more common than we think it is not so much what happens to other people as what can happen to anyone *The Instability of Truth* exposes the myriad ways our minds can be controlled against our will from the brainwashing techniques used against American POWs in North Korea to the soft brainwashing of social media doomscrolling and behavior shaping In our increasingly data driven world anyone can fall victim to mind control Lemov identifies invasive forms of emotional engineering that exploit trauma and addiction to coerce and persuade in everyday life Tracing the word brainwashing from deep in the files of an operative of the U S Office of Strategic Services in the 1950s to the pioneering research of Robert Jay Lifton to the public trials of cult leaders and the case of Patty Hearst Lemov also studies how the idea of mind control has spread across the globe and penetrated courtrooms secret labs military schools and today's digital sites *The Instability of Truth* offers lessons from mind control episodes past and present Truth is always subject to question in more mundane walks of life than most people believe and Lemov equips us for the increasing challenges we face from social media AI and an unprecedented global form of surveillance capitalism *The Instability of Truth* develops a rigorous new understanding of both brainwashing's paradoxes and its emotional roots by giving voice to brainwashers the brainwashed and third party observers alike

The Invisible Injured Adam Montgomery, 2017-05-01 The Canadian military's battle with soldiers psychological trauma

Half a Century with Judges and Lawyers Joseph Augustus Willard, 1896

Century Readings for a Course in American Literature, 1919

Century Readings for a Course in American Literature Fred Lewis Pattee, 1922

The Nineteenth Century, 1915

Nineteenth Century and After, 1928

The Crime of the Century Henry M. Hunt, 1889

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Aspects of Faith and Religion in the Seventeenth Century Arthur Williamson,1891 Century Edition of The
American Digest ,1901 *Twentieth Century* ,1905 The Nineteenth century and after London THE CRIME OF THE
CENTURY OR, The Assassination of Dr. Patrick Henry Cronin HENRY M. HUNT,1889 **The Twentieth Century** ,1915
The age we live in: a history of the nineteenth century. Div. 8 James Taylor,1887 The Works of John Ruskin: The
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On the old road. Arrows of the Chace. Ruskiniana John Ruskin,1908 Volume 1 35 works Volume 36 37 letters Volume 38
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 George Allen s Library Edition of the Works of John Ruskin Volume 39 general index

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