

“Addiction Treatment Doesn’t Help Addicts, It Creates Them”

Mark W. Scheeren

Author & Researcher - The Freedom Model

Mark Scheeren co-founded Baldwin Research Institute, Inc., (BRI), and The Freedom Model Retreats, formerly Saint Jude Retreats, establishing the first completely non-12 Step model for drug and alcohol problems in America. As a BRI Research Fellow, he is the co-author of the revolutionary book, *The Freedom Model for Addictions: Escape the Treatment and Recovery Trap*.

Mark is the only addictions researcher in the world to have studied individuals with substance use issues by living with the study subjects for a period of twelve years.

“This [living with individuals with substance use issues] was the only way to truly understand the issues concerning this population, and to build solutions that actually promoted success. This effort created the knowledge base for the foundation of The Freedom Model for Addictions, that being: free-will, autonomy, and the Positive Drive Principle.”

As a noted 12 Step historian, Mr. Scheeren is an expert on the falsity of the disease concept and the failings of the 12 Step paradigm as a whole. Mark is well known in alcohol and drug research circles for his courageous and outspoken public service campaign, “Treatment Doesn’t Work!”



Mark W. Scheeren

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...So What Is The Freedom Model?

The Answer to the Failing Treatment Establishment

The Freedom Model is an approach that deconstructs the constructs of addiction and recovery and all that surrounds these beliefs. By doing so, anyone can be completely free to move on in his or her life without these constructs holding him or her back and keeping them needlessly trapped in an endless addiction/recovery/addiction cycle.

The Freedom Model renders addiction and recovery as obsolete and unnecessary in both their personal life and as cultural constructs, constructs that keep the masses blind to the solutions that exist within the individual. While The Freedom Model is a book, it is the research and the message contained on those pages that are the real solution to an individual's struggles with drugs and alcohol.

As researchers, Steven Slate, Mark Scheeren, and Michelle Dunbar have spent decades working together building The Freedom Model. It came from many years of working and living with those we were helping find solutions to their complex struggles. We too struggled at one time ourselves, but we came to realize that the research provided answers that made personal change easy, efficient, and enjoyable. If someone is ready to change their life and wants to be free from addiction, treatment, and recovery – then The Freedom Model for Addictions is the answer.



The EXPERTS Agree, “It’s Revolutionary”

Stanton Peele, Ph.D.

Author of Love and Addiction and Diseasing of America

Steven Slate, Mark Scheeren, and Michelle Dunbar have created an indispensable guide through the labyrinth of claims about the nature of addiction to explain how this understanding leads to resolution of addiction and to overcoming it. Indeed, their thoroughly grounded scientific exploration of “the meaning of addiction” IS the basis for such personal resolution. To know that your enemy is not only your addiction, but, more importantly, how you think of it, is the key to freedom from addiction. And no volume in the world can put you in a better position for this resolution than The Freedom Model.

Peter Venturelli, Ph.D.

Author and Addiction Researcher

The Freedom Model is remarkable in that it provides information specifically designed for self-directed change. In going through the educational process, each person gains knowledge and the information necessary to move past the addiction and recovery constructs. Essentially, they are freed from both! They are then able to face any future struggles with confidence, strength, and hope for a better future.





TARGET AUDIENCE

Who Can Benefit from

The Freedom Model for Addictions

- Substance Users
- Family and Friends of Substance Users
- Addiction Professionals
- Human Service Professionals
- Policy Makers and Advocates
- Anyone Touched by Substance Use, Directly or Indirectly

What People Find In

The Freedom Model for Addictions

- How the Rise of the “Recovery Society” and the Disease Theory of Addiction Established and Perpetuates the Problem of Addiction
- Why People Still Struggle with Addiction Despite Greater Access to “Treatment” Than Ever Before
- How Treatment Creates Addicts and Why Unlearning Treatment Think Is Essential to Ending Addiction Completely
- How the Three Pillars – Personal Autonomy, Free Will, and the Personal Drive Principle (PDP) -Are Keys to Any Change – Including Addiction

Interview Questions

1. Why Did You Write The Freedom Model for Addictions?
2. Did Your Life Experience Shape The Freedom Model, and If So, How?
3. Who Would Benefit from Reading The Freedom Model?
4. What Problems Can The Freedom Model Help People Solve?
5. What Is Unique About The Freedom Model?
6. What Is the “Recovery Society” and Why Should People Be Aware of It?
7. What Do You Mean When You Say, “Treatment Creates Addicts”?
8. Would You Explain Why You Say, “Treatment Doesn’t Work!”
9. Why Do You Say There Aren’t Addicts or Alcoholics?
10. You start the book on the topic of moderation. Knowing this is something that’s controversial, why did you start the book this way?
11. In The Freedom Model for Addictions, you talk about three attributes that drive a person – Free Will, Autonomy, and the Positive Drive Principle (PDP). Can you explain each of these, and why these are important attributes to the addict or alcoholic?
12. People often struggle with certain thoughts and ideas. Many addicts and alcoholics say, “I hate getting high”, or they “hate getting drunk” and yet they continue to do it. What do you say to these people and how does The Freedom Model addresses this dichotomy?
13. Why does The Freedom Model say there is no loss of control when using substances when clearly most alcoholics and addicts feel they have no control?
14. In The Freedom Model for Addictions, you discuss what are called “Learned Connections”. Explain what a Learned Connection is, and why it’s important to break these connections?
15. What Do You See As Your Biggest Challenges Moving Forward?
16. What’s the One Piece of Advice You Could Offer Someone Struggling with Substance Use?
17. What’s the One Piece of Advice You Could Offer Loved Ones of a Substance User?
18. What Do You Hope Readers Will Learn or Take Away from The Freedom Model?
19. Are You Available for Interviews and Speaking Engagements?
20. What’s Next for You?
21. How Can Someone Find Out More About The Freedom Model?

POPULAR SPEAKING TOPICS

Mark Scheeren is an opponent of the treatment industry and an advocate for self-directed change, individual freedom, and personal autonomy. In 1992, after personally experiencing the dismal failure of addiction treatment and the devastating aftereffects of exposure to its constructs, Mark set out on a mission to scientifically research and verify the best practices and methodologies for ending addiction.

Only by creating a completely unique model, devoid of the damaging and ineffectual methodologies and philosophies of treatment, was he able to challenge the Recovery Society culture and provide the single most powerful and effective methods of ending addiction.

Mark can be reached for online, print, and radio interviews and is often asked to speak on some of these topics:

Addiction Is NOT a Disease and Believing It Can Be Harmful to Your Health

Treatment Creates Addicts – Why More Access to Treatment Is Hurting, Not Helping - And We've Got the Statistics to Prove It!

Myths of Addiction You Need to Stop Believing

How To Escape the Treatment and Recovery Trap



GRAB ON QUOTES

"Let's debunk the concepts of 'addiction' and 'recovery' so that we can truly inspire people to change on their own."

"When we posted, 'Treatment Doesn't Work!', on our website for the first time in 1996, two things happened: we received more hate mail than in all the years previously combined and our retreats filled up in less than thirty days. Both were fantastic indicators that we were saying the right thing!"

"Let's change the conversation on addiction so that we can truly inspire people to change."

"There are three types of AA members: those who are gurus and never leave, those who believe the gurus and are in and out, and those who leave. Only the last group is a success of AA."

"The disease concept of addiction is the greatest lie told to the American public in the last 100 years."

"There are no causes for addiction. There are only reasons for use...and reasons take reasoning. So, the fact is, if we use our minds to find reasons to use, well that means we are ALWAYS in control, and that means the disease theory is bunk."

Let's Connect Let's Talk

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For more information on The Freedom Model and The Freedom Model Retreats, please visit: <https://www.thefreedommodel.org>

Call our Media Department To Schedule an Interview 888.973.9597

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