

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

Steven Slate

Author & Researcher - The Freedom Model

Steven Slate is a Research Fellow of Baldwin Research Institute (BRI) and co-author of *The Freedom Model for Addictions: Escape the Treatment and Recovery Trap*. His critical essays on the brain disease model of addiction have also appeared in college textbooks on addiction and abnormal psychology from Greenhaven Press and McGraw Hill.

As a former heroin user, Steven experienced the addiction treatment system from the inside, spending 5 years in inpatient and outpatient rehabs, methadone clinics, 12 Step meetings, and psychiatric treatments aimed at the “underlying causes of addiction.” Each of these treatments left him worse off until, with the help of one of BRI’s earlier educational programs, he rejected the helpless addict role and began to see himself as capable of choosing differently. He’s devoted his life to showing others that they too are in control of themselves and capable of self-initiated change of their substance use habits, without a lifetime of treatment and support group meetings.



Steven Slate

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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 address 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

Steven Slate came through the doors of Baldwin Research Institute (BRI) to get help for substance use. Steven had spent 5 years going to inpatient and outpatient rehabs, methadone clinics, 12 Step meetings, and psychiatric treatments before finding an end to his heroin use after coming to an early version of the educational model that preceeded The Freedom Model. With the help of the approach and the dedicated staff, Steven was able to move beyond addiction and recovery completely.

Steven shared a passion for helping others to reject the victimhood of addiction and embrace personal choice, autonomy, and free will and became a Research Fellow at BRI. His critical essays on addiction and substance use have appeared in college texts on addiction and abnormal psychology for Greenhaven Press and McGraw Hill. He is a co-author with Mark Scheeren and Michelle Dunbar of BRI's latest offering, The Freedom Model for Addictions: Escape the Treatment and Recovery Trap, a revolutionary text focusing on helping individuals shed their addict identity and embrace their personal autonomy, free will, and power of choice to command their own destinies beyond the false constructs of addiction and recovery.

Steve Slate 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

“A personal preference for heavy substance use can’t be medically treated, but it can be changed.”

“The vast majority of people with addictions resolve their problems on their own, without treatment or support groups. This is an unquestionable fact supported by over 30 years worth of epidemiological surveys.”

“Nobody is doomed to a lifetime of addiction, until a well-intentioned yet misguided helper convinces them that they are.”

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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