The Breaking of Bodies and Minds
Torture, Psychiatric Abuse, and the Health Professions

A documentation of systematic use and effects of physical and mental torture throughout the world

Edited by Eric Stover and Elena O. Nightingale
With a Foreword by David A. Hamburg

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This eye-opening book brings together for the first time writings on the role of medical personnel in cases of torture and psychiatric abuse. Through analyses and case histories, psychiatrists and other health care professionals, political scientists, ethicists, and other writers discuss the systematic use and effects of physical and mental torture in the Soviet Union, Latin America, and other parts of the world.

The book also details the complicity of an alarming number of medical personnel in torture and psychiatric abuse and examines the ways in which governments use a medical rationale to seek legitimacy for human destruction. Finally, it describes efforts by medical and other associations both to combat offensive practices and treat victims.

The Breaking of Bodies and Minds is important reading for anyone concerned with the preservation of basic human rights.

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