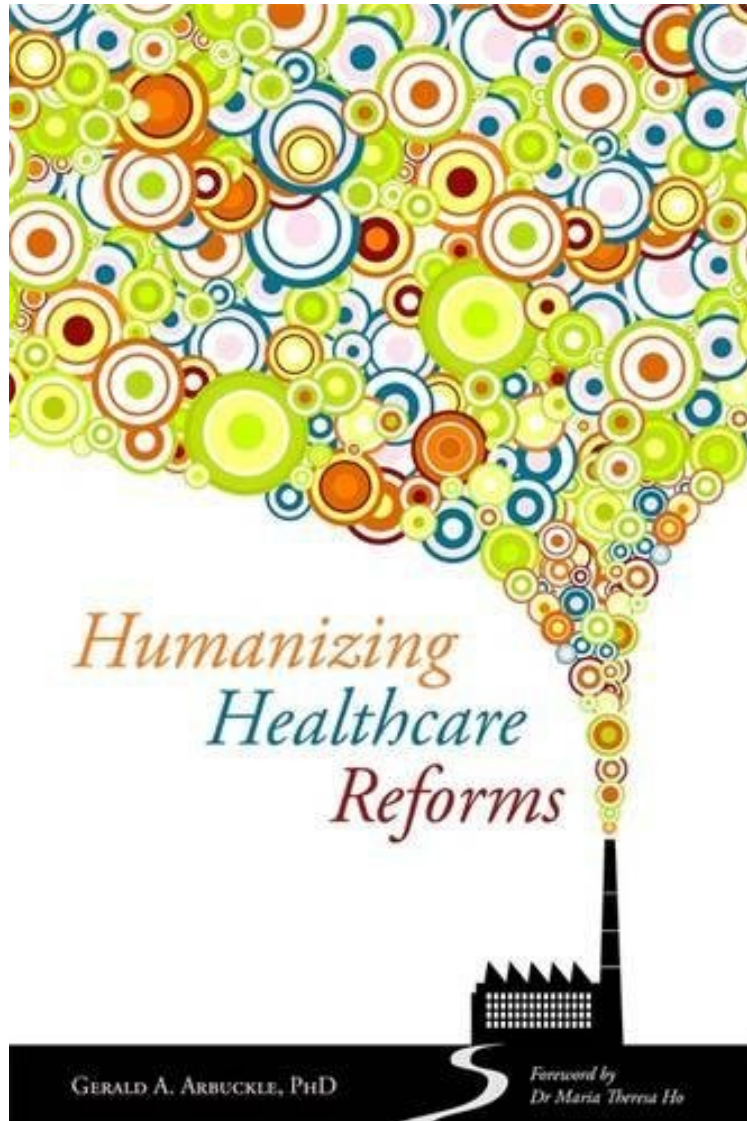


# Humanizing Healthcare Reforms

*Gerald Arbuckle*

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#3305893 in Books Jessica Kingsley Pub 2012-10-15 2013-04-25 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .62 x 6.00l, .90 #File Name: 1849053189272 pages | File size: 53.Mb

**Gerald Arbuckle : Humanizing Healthcare Reforms** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Humanizing Healthcare Reforms:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Bringing Human Values to Healthcare Reform By David Kopacz Gerald Arbuckle writes from a truly international perspective, as a New Zealander, educated at Cambridge University in the UK, living in Sydney Australia, and having served as an organizational consultant in the US, Canada, and Australia. He trained as a social anthropologist and brings an understanding of how culture shapes values, beliefs

and actions and he applies this knowledge to contextualize motivations in healthcare systems. His description of different models of healthcare illuminates the roots of the debates around healthcare reform. He describes the traditional (mainly indigenous) model of healthcare and the foundational model (based on equity, compassion, mercy and social justice) as both including a holistic approach, a sense of social and spiritual context and the valuing of interpersonal elements of relationship. In contrast, he describes the biomedical model and economic rationalist models as being focused on numbers and objectivity, and reducing therapeutic interactions to factors that can be counted, measured and economically valued. With an understanding of the different values of these different models, it can easily be seen why patients, doctors, healthcare professionals, third-party payors and government agencies have different priorities based upon the model of healthcare that they hold primary. With the perspective gained through understanding that these models of care have different values and priorities, Arbuckle brings his understanding of the role of culture and how it can support or inhibit healthcare reform. He argues that the values of the foundational model of healthcare must be re-invigorated to counter-balance reforms based on biomedical or economic principles. In short, Arbuckle argues for including humanitarian values in discussions around healthcare cost and science. I found Arbuckle's conceptualizations quite useful in my own writing for my forthcoming book, "Re-humanizing Medicine." He presents a well-reasoned argument from an anthropological perspective, which is not often heard in contemporary medicine. He champions human values amidst debates regarding cost and technology in medicine. His book provides a useful sociocultural context for the kinds of healthcare reform called for by doctors such as Robin Youngson, whose book, "Time to Care," calls for greater compassion in healthcare. Arbuckle provides a great conceptual template as well as an inspirational call for leadership in healthcare that is collaborative and transformative. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Rhetoric Overwhelmed Great Insights By IN8 If only he stuck with his argument without trying to sell a political dream. The obvious clash between capitalism and socialism is being played out in health - with devastating consequences worse than either system alone. That's a powerful argument to unpack without the much less logical and more ideological distractions. I would read it - but not twice. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Doesn't disappoint By Luvtoo Reed Arbuckle at his best and most practical! An unquestioned classic on organizational culture. Highly recommended to all who are interested in organizational development, character and meaning.

Looking at the current turmoil facing contemporary healthcare systems worldwide, resulting from relentless imposition of financially-based performance indicators, the author argues that a return to a values-based approach to healthcare will create positive transformation. Writing from the fresh perspective of social anthropology, the author takes a highly pragmatic approach to practice, emphasizing the importance of values such as compassion, solidarity and social justice. He suggests that without being able clearly to identify the values and goals that unite their members, healthcare organizations are unlikely to be able to meet the demands of the constant and varied pressures they face, and explains how individuals at every level in healthcare can contribute in practical ways to positive change within their organizations. This much-needed and very accessible book will be essential reading for anyone interested in a better approach to healthcare reform, from clinicians and nurses, to managers and policy makers, as well as the interested reader.

Humanizing Healthcare Reform is essential reading for all those interested in a structured approach to healthcare reform, from clinicians and nurses to managers and policy makers. -- Nursing Standard This book is a useful mirror for managers and clinicians to reflect on and mitigate their own responses to structural change. -- Allyson Pollock, Professor of Public Health Research and Policy at Queen Mary, University of London In Humanizing Healthcare Reforms, Arbuckle excises the dialogue out of the conventional logic that has been so unsatisfying in solving the challenge of healthcare, drawing us into a credibly optimistic conversation in which cultural understandings make transformative change imaginable. His deeply provocative, delightfully articulated, and thoroughly constructive text fills an important gap in the debates about healthcare system reform, reviving the essence of the moral and spiritual ideals that led to the development of healthcare systems in the first place and offering a practical guide to enacting them through visionary and strategic leadership. Arbuckle speaks the language of the idealist and committed people who struggle to solve the problems of healthcare in our modern age, and offers them a new way forward. -- Professor Sally Thorne, University of British Columbia School of Nursing, Vancouver, Canada This is an important book...The book is a stupendous achievement...There is a uniquely wide vision of the healthcare elephant from every side and corner... There is a mountain of reading, and his references section is gigantic, up-to-date and very wide-ranging... spiritually founded, culturally intelligent, multi-dimensional portrayal of healthcare systems caught between the claims of technical excellence, financial efficiency and humanized compassionate care. There is nothing like it. -- Desmond Ryan \* The Way \* Humanizing Healthcare Reform is essential reading for all those interested in a structured approach to healthcare reform, from clinicians and nurses to managers and policy makers. (Nursing Standard) This book is a useful mirror for managers and clinicians to reflect on and mitigate their own responses to structural change. (Allyson Pollock, Professor of Public Health Research and Policy at Queen Mary, University of London) In Humanizing

Healthcare Reforms, Arbuckle excises the dialogue out of the conventional logic that has been so unsatisfying in solving the challenge of healthcare, drawing us into a credibly optimistic conversation in which cultural understandings make transformative change imaginable. His deeply provocative, delightfully articulated, and thoroughly constructive text fills an important gap in the debates about healthcare system reform, reviving the essence of the moral and spiritual ideals that led to the development of healthcare systems in the first place and offering a practical guide to enacting them through visionary and strategic leadership. Arbuckle speaks the language of the idealist and committed people who struggle to solve the problems of healthcare in our modern age, and offers them a new way forward. (Professor Sally Thorne, University of British Columbia School of Nursing, Vancouver, Canada) This is an important book... The book is a stupendous achievement... There is a uniquely wide vision of the healthcare elephant from every side and corner... There is a mountain of reading, and his references section is gigantic, up-to-date and very wide-ranging... spiritually founded, culturally intelligent, multi-dimensional portrayal of healthcare systems caught between the claims of technical excellence, financial efficiency and humanized compassionate care. There is nothing like it. (Desmond Ryan *The Way*)

About the Author Gerald A. Arbuckle, PhD, is a Cambridge University trained anthropologist and a cultural and organisational consultant to public and private healthcare systems in the United States, Canada, and Australia. A former director of the national board of St Vincent's Health, Australia, he was appointed in 2008 by the Government of New South Wales to the Independent Panel to oversee the reform of the state's public hospital system. During 2010 he worked at Campion Hall, Oxford University, researching issues confronting the National Health Service in England. In 2011 he gave the Martin D'Arcy Memorial Lectures at Oxford University upon which this book is based. Gerald lives in Sydney, Australia.