

# Empowerment & Advocacy Transform the World

Blazing the Trail of Transformation



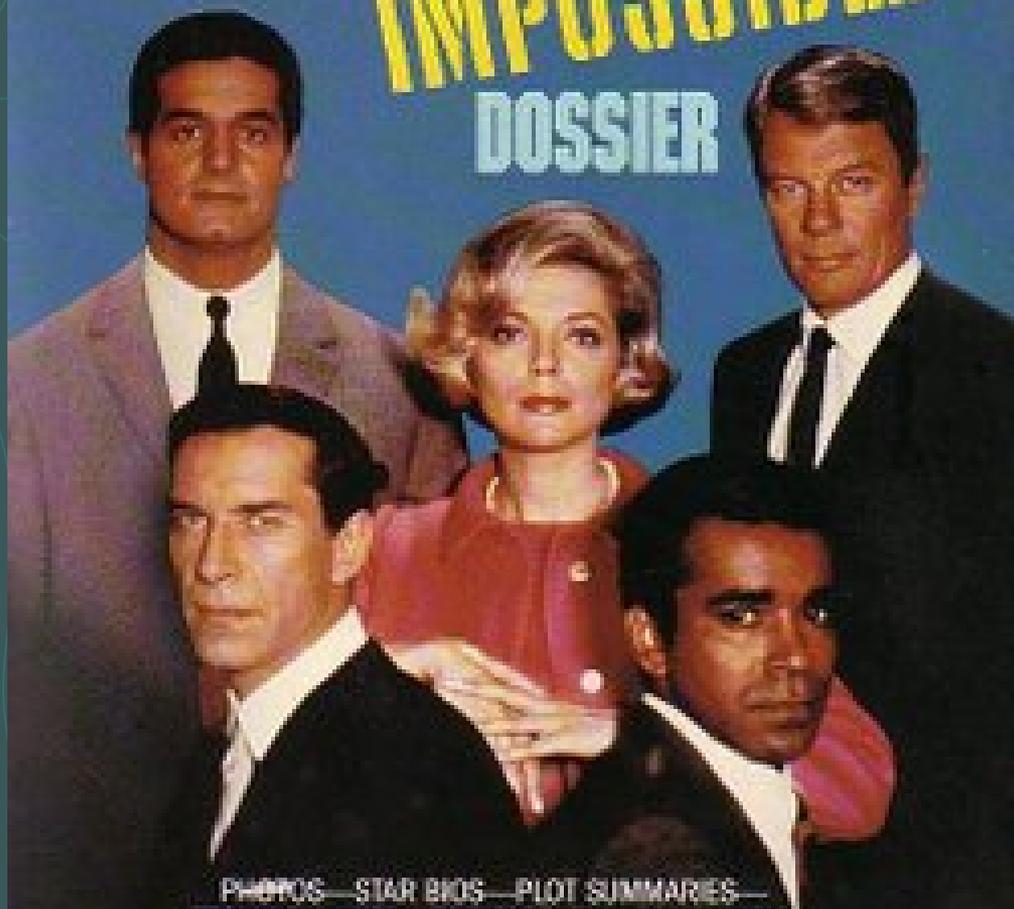
Eduardo Vega, M.A., Chief  
Empowerment and Advocacy  
Los Angeles County Dep. Of Mental Health  
[evega@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:evega@dmh.lacounty.gov); 213.251.6580

# Transformation Vision and the Mental Health Services Act

- Transformative transformers
- Consumer-Centered (Person-Centered) Family-Focused systems of care
- Mental Health informed by recovery values
  - Dignity
  - Individual recovery journey
  - Social context
  - Living with and recovering
  - Grounded in wellness not illness/symptoms

THE INSIDE STORY OF THE TELEVISION PHENOMENON THAT INSPIRED THE HIT MOVIE!

THE COMPLETE **MISSION:  
IMPOSSIBLE**  
DOSSIER



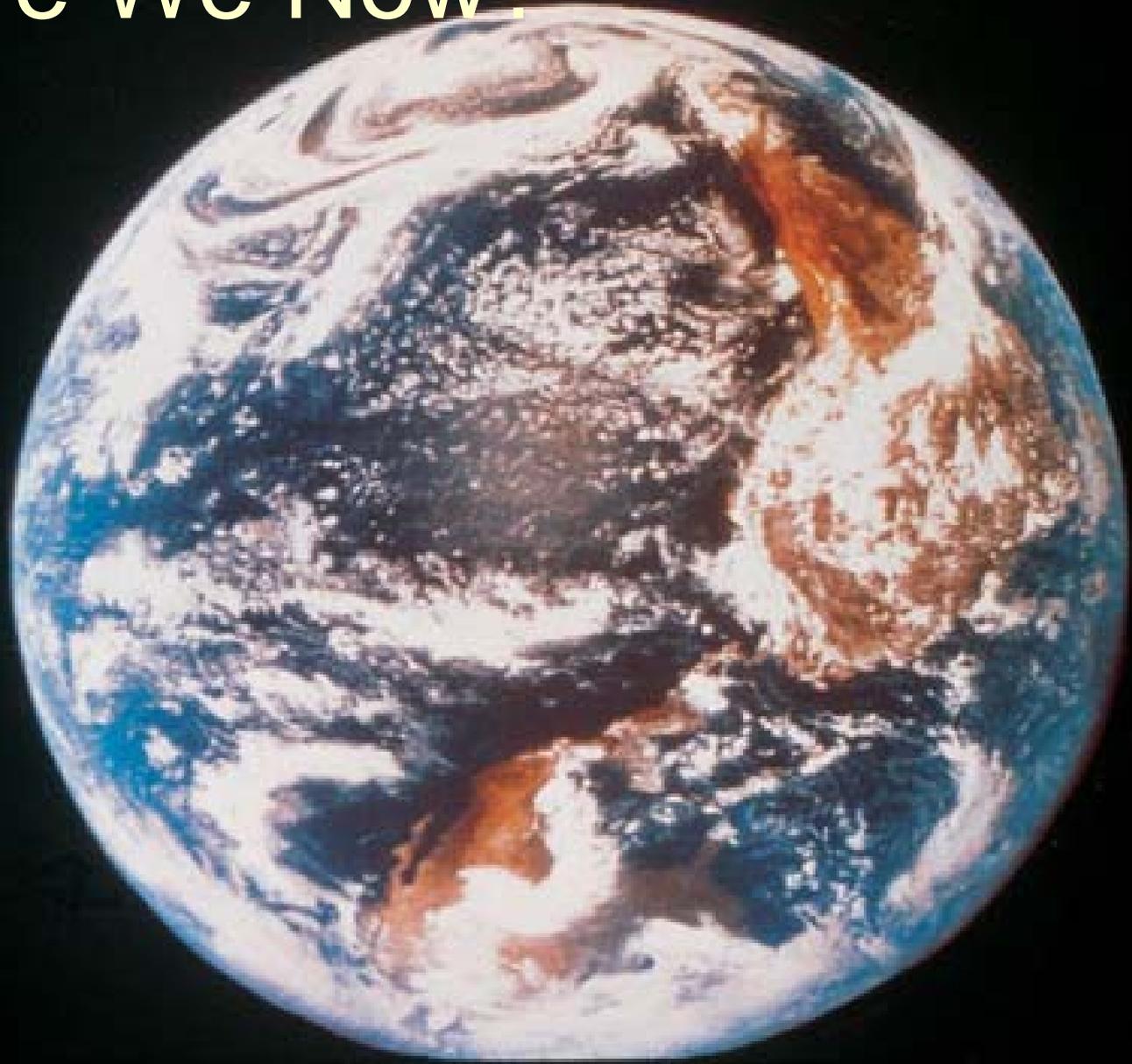
PHOTOS—STAR BIOS—PLOT SUMMARIES—  
TECHNICAL INFO—THE ESSENTIAL COMPANION  
TO THE POPULAR TELEVISION ADVENTURE SERIES

PATRICK J. WHITE

# Where Are We Now?

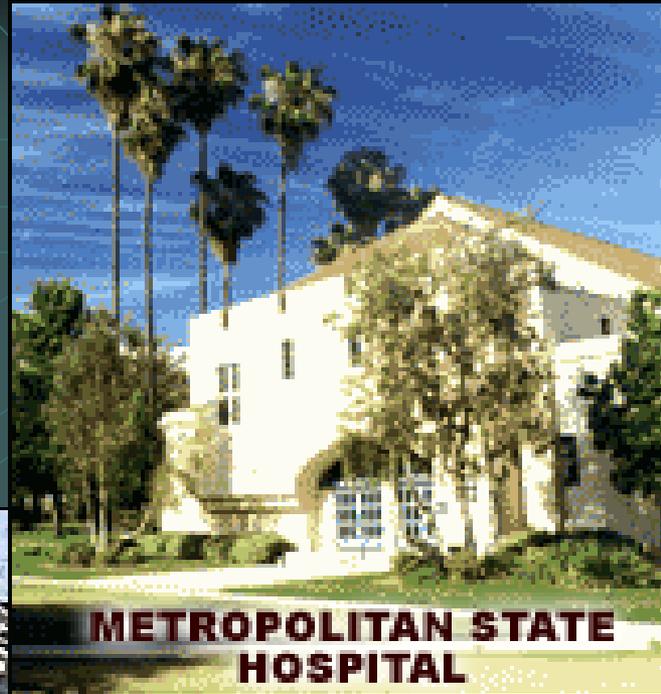


# Where Are We Now?



# Exhibit 1

## California



# Exhibit 2, USA



# Exhibit 3

Psychiatric hospitals  
Africa,  
Eastern Europe



# Where Are We?



## USA

Most powerful,  
influential,  
wealthiest  
country in the  
world

GDP (13,244,550)  
=over 1/4 of WGP  
(48,144,466)  
(IMF 2006)

# Where Are We?

## California

- World's 6th largest economy
- Historically among the most progressive states in the US
- 35,000,000-- almost 1/10 of the U.S.
- GP-- >\$1.5T

Mental Health Services Act  
(Proposition 63)

Over \$1 billion annually

To serve the neediest and transform the mental health system to recovery-based, client centered, family focused



# When Are We?



Madness, Thou chaos of of Brain,  
What art! That Pleasure giv'st, and Pain  
Tyranny of Fancy's Reign:  
Mechanic Fancy, that can build  
Cast, Labour, Wealth, & Wars, with

With Rule directed, Angels' Measure,  
Fill'd with Terror, fill'd with Pleasure:  
Shapes of Terror, that would even  
Cast Doubt of Mercy upon Heaven.

Shapes of Pleasure, that but seen  
Would split the Making, Idles spleen  
& Landy of, Age: here see  
The Stamp of: woven spun by The

The headstrong Course of Wrath that run,  
What comes from this darling-son:  
The rattling chains with Terror hear,  
Behold Death snappings with Despair,

See him by Thee to Ruin sold,  
And curse thy self, & curse thy gold.

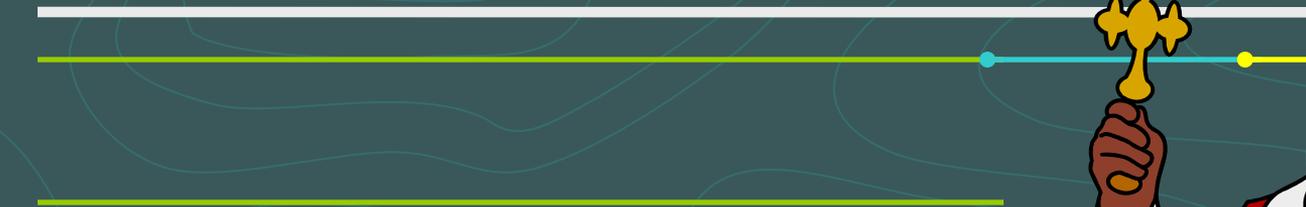
Retouch'd by the Author 1766.

# When Are We?



# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



BCE-12th Century AD

Prophets; cultural change

Social support

community stabilization

exorcism

torture/murder



# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



13th - 18th Century AD

*Ship of Fools*

*Bethlem Hospital (Bedlam)*  
(1240)

*Racial Diagnosis:*  
*Negritude (B. Rush, 1780s)*  
*Drapetomania (1851)*

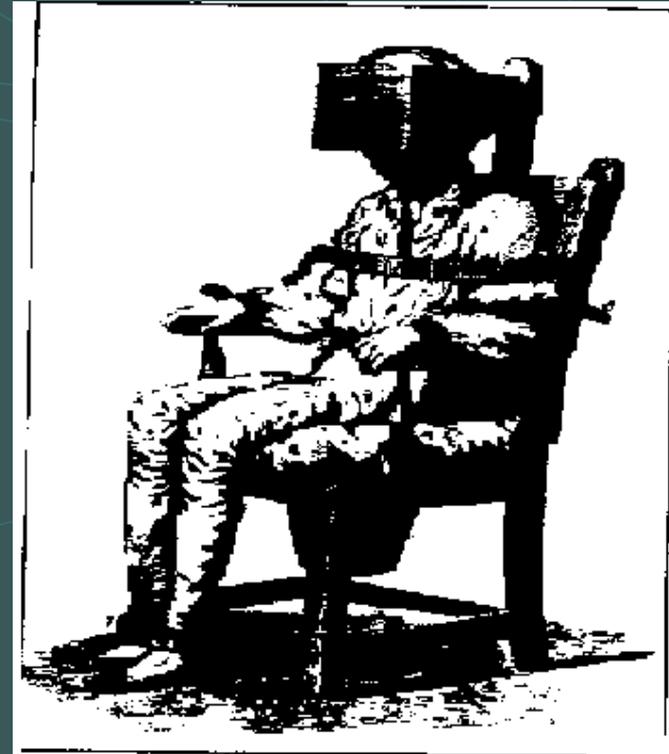


# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



19th Century AD  
Industrial revolution  
Birth of 'psychiatry'  
Psychoanalysis  
Asylum movement for humane  
treatment  
Friends hospital (1813)  
(D. Dix)



Tranquilizing chair used in the treatment of the mentally ill in the 19th century

# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



20th-21st Century AD



Mental Hospitals  
(over 550K in U.S. by 1955)

1940s Conscientious Objectors (Byberry Hospital)  
began advocating for better conditions

1950s --Thorazine ++

# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses

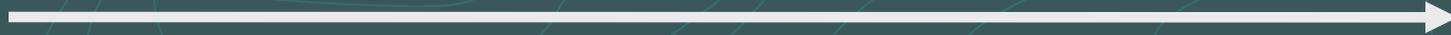


## 20th-21st Century ADVOCACY

- **CLIFFORD BEERS** and Penn C.O.s start NMHF later NMHA
- 60s-70s Deinstitutionalization
- SAMSHA created
- 70s Community Mental Health movement (psychosocial rehab)
- 1971-80 Trieste transformation
- 1979 NAMI founded by family advocates

# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



20th Century A.D.

EMPOWERMENT

- Client Movement (70s-present)
- On Our Own by J. Chamberlain/
  - Self-help
  - Survivor/ex-patients
  - Civil action/hospital closures
  - Alternatives conferences
  - Peer Support/peer advocacy

# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



20th-21st Century AD. (USA)

## ADVOCACY

- Consumer Movement
- ADA
  - Protection and Advocacy
  - Olmstead decision (2000)
- Consumer Affairs Offices, etc. (1980s)
- Seclusion and Restraint advocacy

# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses

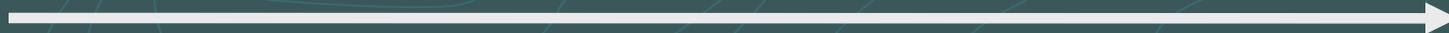


20th-21st Century AD. (USA)—  
RECOVERY and ADVOCACY

- C. Harding studies
  - 65% over 'lowest functioning' 20% w/dx of schizophrenia
  - recovered after discharge within the community
  - Lower expectations → lower results in maintenance programs
- Empowerment, hope, employment/activity → recovery

# When Are We?

Historical social response to people with mental illnesses



20th-21st Century AD. (USA)—  
RECOVERY and ADVOCACY

2003 New Freedom Commission on Mental Health  
-empowerment at the core of recovery

2004-- SAMSHA Mental Health Services Transformation

**2004 California Mental Health Services Act**

# Where Are We?



# The trail of transformation



# A vision for the future

Community  
Recovery  
Well-being  
Everywhere



# We need you!

Transformative transformers



• [evega@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:evega@dmh.lacounty.gov); 213.251.6580