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Science For Sale: How The US Government Uses Powerful Corporations And Leading Universities To Support Government Policies, Silence Top Scientists, Jeopardize Our Health, And Protect Corporate Profits





Synopsis

When Speaker Newt Gingrich greeted Dr. David Lewis in his office overlooking the National Mall, he looked at Dr. Lewis and said: "You know you're going to be fired for this, don't you?" "I know," Dr. Lewis replied, "I just hope to stay out of prison." Gingrich had just read Dr. Lewis's commentary in *Nature*, titled "EPA Science: Casualty of Election Politics." Three years later, and thirty years after Dr. Lewis began working at EPA, he was back in Washington to receive a Science Achievement Award from Administrator Carol Browner for his second article in *Nature*. By then, EPA had transferred Dr. Lewis to the University of Georgia to await termination—the Agency's only scientist to ever be lead author on papers published in *Nature* and *Lancet*. The government hires scientists to support its policies; industry hires them to support its business; and universities hire them to bring in grants that are handed out to support government policies and industry practices. Organizations dealing with scientific integrity are designed only to weed out those who commit fraud behind the backs of the institutions where they work. The greatest threat of all is the purposeful corruption of the scientific enterprise by the institutions themselves. The science they create is often only an illusion, designed to deceive; and the scientists they destroy to protect that illusion are often our best. This book is about both, beginning with Dr. Lewis's experience, and ending with the story of Dr. Andrew Wakefield.

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Customer Reviews

Citizens affected by the land application of sewage sludge will benefit from reading *Science for Sale*. Although he does touch upon a few other topics, much of the book is about how the government wanted a solution to the sewage sludge problem, and since Congress had banned sludge from being dumped into the ocean the EPA came up with a solution, re-branded sludge as "biosolids" and with some magic via "science" from industry-related and backed "research", a toxic substance that killed aquatic life in the sea was suddenly declared suitable for soil. As an individual who didn't know anything about sewage sludge until 2012, when I became aware of the dumping of this material in my rural area, I am grateful to Dr. Lewis for his courage in writing this book. It, along with the document *The Gatekeepers* (which can be read online) details exactly how the EPA and the wastewater and sludge industries manipulated the public and used branding and PR to promote the land application of a toxic substance onto farm fields.

It is informative to have Dr. David Lewis's authoritative book, *Science for Sale*, as a reminder of the history of the current regulations and practice of land-disposed sewage sludge. While citizen-led legislation sought to protect us from the consequences of exposure to environmental contaminants and pollutants, the waste disposal industry prevailed over efforts to protect human and environmental health. Our forests, waters, farms, parks and playgrounds are not places where toxic sewage sludge should be disposed as a business venture to the detriment of our health and environment. This historical reference work will prevail where legislation has been inadequate.

It will rattle all of your beliefs

I really enjoyed reading this book, well I've not finished it but it's up my tin pan alley because as a long supporter of food as your medicine I can assure you from my experience in all the years I've graced this planet that I didn't need to read or be told these things, just nice to see the info getting out there despite naysayers. I've been bit eight times by a lyme tick and what goes on behind the scenes with CDC is appalling. The doctors are a joke and yet some are very aware but have their hands tied. Just because something is published doesn't make it so! Peer reviewed or not! They are crooks with one mission..to line their pockets.

Somebody finally had the courage to connect the dots for the consumer ã| thank you

This book is for everyone. Scientists, academia, farmers, rural and urban residents need to know how a nationwide waste management program can impact the health of everyone, but especially children. Dr. Davis takes us inside the US Environmental Protection Agency and how the scientists there have been silenced by corporate interests by political mandates to make all environmental policies under a "cost-benefit analysis." Unfortunately, the only "person" who will benefit from this method of regulatory decisions will be corporate interests and local governments. This book uncovers the dirty secrets that allows toxic sewage sludge municipal waste to be spread and sprayed on farmlands that may grow your food or food for the animals you eat. Nobody is exempt from the impacts of thousands of synthetic chemicals mixed together and condensed in the sewage sludge that may even be taken to another "Class A" level that will allow this toxic mixture to be put in your garden, your yard, the school playgrounds, parks, and all public places. The EPA was under pressure by Congress to quickly find a way for municipalities to get rid of their sewage sludge that was being dumped into the oceans. When condoms, needles, and other items started washing ashore in NJ, the folks got right angry. Congressional investigation showed that the places that the sewage was dumped into the ocean were dying and marine life was nil. So, the EPA Administration, without the backing and approval of their own scientists in the Office of Research and Development, decided sewage sludge that killed marine life would be good as fertilizer for farmland in 1993. This book tells about what happens when scientists with honor and integrity try to stand up to EPA Administration and government to try to protect human health. The scientists are fired, maligned, sued, and generally given the boot. However, heroes come in all shapes and sizes and Dr. Lewis is one of our nation's heroes. Not only did he discover that dental equipment was not being cleaned sufficiently to kill HIV and other pathogens and get dentists world wide to change procedures for sterilizing instruments, he became a whistleblower after being fired from the EPA after 30 years of outstanding scientific contributions. This gentle, soft spoken very intelligent man deserves our kudos and respect while we figure out how to protect ourselves from the toxic environment the EPA has mandated for disposal of municipal sewage sludge that impacts our air, water, and food.

A Must Read! Knowledge is power, and this book provides answers to many current health mysteries. Author sends proceeds to the Whistleblower foundation.

An eye-opening book from a very respected and impressive scientist. I've learned a lot. My criticism is that the book could have benefited from better editing, better references and endnotes, to make it easier to read and to arm the reader with more facts. Because after reading the book you come away with depressing feeling of "we are losing this battle", instead of feeling empowered with facts as well as some actionable steps that any reader could implement. That's criticism of the editor(s) and publisher, not Dr. Lewis, who did his job magnificently.

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