The Opioid Epidemic: How opioids invaded America

The New York Post recently interviewed Co-Founder and Managing Partner Harry Nelson about how opioids invaded America and brought forth the country's deadliest health crisis.

Harry has grown in the healthcare industry to be a thought leader regarding the litigation and other issues surrounding the opioid epidemic. He provides expert insight in his latest book, The United States of Opioids: A Prescription for Liberating a Nation in Pain.

From the article:

> As a health-care lawyer, Nelson has had a particularly good perspective on the opioid epidemic that's decimated the country in the past 20 years. He's represented drug-treatment programs reeling from patient overdoses, doctors who have prescribed opioids and caused overdoses, those who have refused to provide pills to patients, as well as those who have become addicted to pills themselves.
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> "I have a reputation for being as close to a mental-health therapist as lawyers get," the LA-based lawyer told The Post. In "The United States of Opioids," Nelson guides us through the overwhelming issues and roadblocks that formed the epidemic.
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> In 2017, there were 49,000 opioid deaths in the US, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Twelve million people in this country are addicted to opioids, and the numbers keep increasing. In 2012 alone, American doctors wrote 259 million opioid prescriptions for pain, enough to provide every single person in the country over the age of 18 with his or her own 30 day supply of painkillers, Nelson writes. If nothing changes, a million Americans will have died from opioid-related causes between 2000 and 2025.
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> *How opioids invaded America — and are now tightening their grip —*
> *Stefanie Cohen, June 15, 2019*

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