



RYAN HAMPTON

THE OPIOID CRISIS, THE SACKLER FAMILY, & THE PURDUE PHARMA CASE



JOIN PLUS FOR FULL 2HR EPISODES:
[THEHIGHERSIDECHATS.COM](https://www.thehighersidechats.com)

1
00:00:05,910 --> 00:00:03,510
the higher side chats doesn't start with

2
00:00:07,749 --> 00:00:05,920
underwear ads or guilt-tripping donation

3
00:00:09,990 --> 00:00:07,759
please nor would i ever commit the

4
00:00:11,910 --> 00:00:10,000
cardinal sin of podcasting and interrupt

5
00:00:14,549 --> 00:00:11,920
the flow mid-show to show you an

6
00:00:16,550 --> 00:00:14,559
unrelated sponsor but the free first

7
00:00:18,950 --> 00:00:16,560
hour episodes do have to start with a

8
00:00:21,269 --> 00:00:18,960
little psa before we get into it to ever

9
00:00:23,830 --> 00:00:21,279
so quickly remind slash informed

10
00:00:25,670 --> 00:00:23,840
listeners both old slash new that you're

11
00:00:27,589 --> 00:00:25,680
about to get into what i'm sure is a

12
00:00:29,429 --> 00:00:27,599
great first hour of a high level

13
00:00:31,750 --> 00:00:29,439

interview but that means you're missing

14

00:00:34,069 --> 00:00:31,760

half the show if you like what we do

15

00:00:35,910 --> 00:00:34,079

around here get yourself a thc plus

16

00:00:37,510 --> 00:00:35,920

membership and listen to the full two

17

00:00:39,270 --> 00:00:37,520

hour interviews as they were really

18

00:00:41,350 --> 00:00:39,280

designed to be and as i know you would

19

00:00:43,350 --> 00:00:41,360

enjoy them most give a little and

20

00:00:45,750 --> 00:00:43,360

actually get a little more in return of

21

00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:45,760

the thing you're actually engaging with

22

00:00:50,549 --> 00:00:48,000

five episodes every month plus forum

23

00:00:53,189 --> 00:00:50,559

access community comments downloads to

24

00:00:56,310 --> 00:00:53,199

all the closing cover songs a plus show

25

00:00:58,869 --> 00:00:56,320

rss feed to use with any private rss

26
00:01:01,029 --> 00:00:58,879
feed supported app and the occasional

27
00:01:02,790 --> 00:01:01,039
joint session bonus shows which include

28
00:01:04,630 --> 00:01:02,800
the messages you might leave me about

29
00:01:06,830 --> 00:01:04,640
your own theories experiences or

30
00:01:09,429 --> 00:01:06,840
otherworldly encounters at

31
00:01:11,190 --> 00:01:09,439
thehiresidechats.com voicemail

32
00:01:13,030 --> 00:01:11,200
if you're not quite sure if you just

33
00:01:15,429 --> 00:01:13,040
want to feel us out or if you're only

34
00:01:17,990 --> 00:01:15,439
here for this particular episode no

35
00:01:20,070 --> 00:01:18,000
worries new first time subscribers get a

36
00:01:21,749 --> 00:01:20,080
7 day free trial when you sign up at

37
00:01:24,149 --> 00:01:21,759
thehiresidechats.com

38
00:01:26,070 --> 00:01:24,159

cancel anytime try it out because it's

39

00:01:27,670 --> 00:01:26,080

so important to feed the things you want

40

00:01:30,149 --> 00:01:27,680

to grow and starve the things that gotta

41

00:01:37,190 --> 00:01:30,159

go and with that said let's get on with

42

00:01:41,749 --> 00:01:39,910

in the 1930s president franklin delano

43

00:01:44,310 --> 00:01:41,759

roosevelt addressed the nation through a

44

00:01:47,429 --> 00:01:44,320

series of radio broadcasts known as the

45

00:01:49,190 --> 00:01:47,439

fireside chats his aim was to reassure

46

00:01:51,350 --> 00:01:49,200

the common man that our society would

47

00:01:53,910 --> 00:01:51,360

recover from its troubled times well

48

00:01:56,469 --> 00:01:53,920

we're far from 1930 and i deal with a

49

00:01:59,030 --> 00:01:56,479

different kind of fire for a new era of

50

00:02:02,870 --> 00:01:59,040

worldly frustration we offer a fresh

51
00:02:05,510 --> 00:02:02,880
conversation i'm greg carlwood and these

52
00:02:07,030 --> 00:02:05,520
are the higher side chats

53
00:02:09,190 --> 00:02:07,040
well this is the way higher side

54
00:02:11,510 --> 00:02:09,200
chatters doing what we do from sunny san

55
00:02:13,670 --> 00:02:11,520
diego i'm greg carlwood and with nearly

56
00:02:16,309 --> 00:02:13,680
all the cascading problems facing the

57
00:02:17,790 --> 00:02:16,319
world when you dig deeper into each one

58
00:02:19,910 --> 00:02:17,800
you can usually find in a

59
00:02:21,830 --> 00:02:19,920
multi-generational billionaire family of

60
00:02:24,550 --> 00:02:21,840
the propped up parasite class is

61
00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:24,560
responsible or at least has found a way

62
00:02:28,550 --> 00:02:26,640
to seize the opportunity to suck up some

63
00:02:30,470 --> 00:02:28,560

profits out of the massive fallout of

64

00:02:31,670 --> 00:02:30,480

our misfortunes while the rest of us pay

65

00:02:34,710 --> 00:02:31,680

the cost

66

00:02:37,589 --> 00:02:34,720

education media healthcare technology

67

00:02:39,589 --> 00:02:37,599

for-profit prisons food oil energy and

68

00:02:41,750 --> 00:02:39,599

of course medicine all have their

69

00:02:44,070 --> 00:02:41,760

designated cabals and corporations

70

00:02:45,750 --> 00:02:44,080

carving out a piece of the pie and today

71

00:02:48,470 --> 00:02:45,760

we're going to talk about the sackler

72

00:02:50,470 --> 00:02:48,480

family purdue pharma the opioid crisis

73

00:02:53,110 --> 00:02:50,480

and how we see several underlying

74

00:02:54,790 --> 00:02:53,120

infrastructural mechanisms actually

75

00:02:56,710 --> 00:02:54,800

serving the interests of the nefarious

76

00:02:58,869 --> 00:02:56,720

few while the victims and society at

77

00:03:00,710 --> 00:02:58,879

large are left holding the bag

78

00:03:02,630 --> 00:03:00,720

and breaking it all down today is our

79

00:03:04,390 --> 00:03:02,640

guest ryan hampton who knows this

80

00:03:06,949 --> 00:03:04,400

subject as well as anyone from a

81

00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:06,959

personal and professional perspective

82

00:03:11,430 --> 00:03:09,360

ryan has seen the struggle firsthand as

83

00:03:14,149 --> 00:03:11,440

the prescription pain medication given

84

00:03:15,830 --> 00:03:14,159

to him after a hiking injury severely

85

00:03:18,550 --> 00:03:15,840

derailed his life to the point of

86

00:03:20,470 --> 00:03:18,560

homelessness but he has risen up to be

87

00:03:22,470 --> 00:03:20,480

one of the most powerful voices and

88

00:03:24,149 --> 00:03:22,480

advocates in the recovery movement a

89

00:03:25,589 --> 00:03:24,159

commendable mission he is thoroughly

90

00:03:28,470 --> 00:03:25,599

dedicated to

91

00:03:31,110 --> 00:03:28,480

he's also the author of 2018's american

92

00:03:32,390 --> 00:03:31,120

fix inside the opioid addiction crisis

93

00:03:34,149 --> 00:03:32,400

and how to end it

94

00:03:36,070 --> 00:03:34,159

as well as the recently released

95

00:03:37,990 --> 00:03:36,080

unsettled how the purdue pharma

96

00:03:40,229 --> 00:03:38,000

bankruptcy failed the victims of the

97

00:03:42,149 --> 00:03:40,239

american overdose crisis which was

98

00:03:44,229 --> 00:03:42,159

written in real time as he served as

99

00:03:46,550 --> 00:03:44,239

co-chair of the official unsecured

100

00:03:48,630 --> 00:03:46,560

creditors committee that acted as a

101
00:03:50,949 --> 00:03:48,640
watchdog during the court proceedings as

102
00:03:54,470 --> 00:03:50,959
purdue pharma filed for bankruptcy to

103
00:03:56,550 --> 00:03:54,480
protect itself from over 2 600 lawsuits

104
00:03:58,710 --> 00:03:56,560
stemming from its role in fueling the

105
00:04:00,710 --> 00:03:58,720
u.s overdose crisis

106
00:04:02,869 --> 00:04:00,720
it's a topic well worth our time so

107
00:04:05,509 --> 00:04:02,879
let's get into it the addiction recovery

108
00:04:07,990 --> 00:04:05,519
advocate opioid crisis commentator and

109
00:04:09,750 --> 00:04:08,000
thorn in the sackler's side ryan welcome

110
00:04:11,670 --> 00:04:09,760
to the higher side

111
00:04:14,070 --> 00:04:11,680
greg thanks for having me

112
00:04:16,390 --> 00:04:14,080
really excited to be here to be able to

113
00:04:18,390 --> 00:04:16,400

talk about this topic and thank you you

114

00:04:20,150 --> 00:04:18,400

know for giving it air time because it

115

00:04:22,710 --> 00:04:20,160

certainly isn't getting enough so i

116

00:04:24,710 --> 00:04:22,720

appreciate you and all your listeners

117

00:04:26,710 --> 00:04:24,720

uh kind of you to say and we are lucky

118

00:04:29,030 --> 00:04:26,720

to have you here i appreciate your

119

00:04:31,590 --> 00:04:29,040

dedication to this issue that everyone

120

00:04:34,390 --> 00:04:31,600

seems to know about but it just seems to

121

00:04:36,710 --> 00:04:34,400

keep snowballing so many people know of

122

00:04:39,110 --> 00:04:36,720

at least a few folks who have fallen

123

00:04:40,790 --> 00:04:39,120

into this trap three or four guys i went

124

00:04:42,710 --> 00:04:40,800

to high school with are no longer with

125

00:04:45,350 --> 00:04:42,720

us and i'm sure a lot of people out

126

00:04:47,510 --> 00:04:45,360

there can say something similar to that

127

00:04:49,189 --> 00:04:47,520

i really enjoyed both your books so much

128

00:04:51,909 --> 00:04:49,199

to talk about but if we were to start

129

00:04:53,830 --> 00:04:51,919

with an overview of the opioid crisis

130

00:04:55,590 --> 00:04:53,840

and the size and scope of how it's

131

00:04:56,390 --> 00:04:55,600

affected the country and the world at

132

00:04:58,870 --> 00:04:56,400

large

133

00:05:00,710 --> 00:04:58,880

what are the statistics and data that

134

00:05:01,990 --> 00:05:00,720

you could give us to get the ball

135

00:05:03,990 --> 00:05:02,000

rolling

136

00:05:06,710 --> 00:05:04,000

yeah absolutely that's a great question

137

00:05:08,390 --> 00:05:06,720

so you know the opioid overdose crisis

138

00:05:10,469 --> 00:05:08,400

today looks very different from what it

139

00:05:11,909 --> 00:05:10,479

looked like just a few years ago when i

140

00:05:15,350 --> 00:05:11,919

found recovery you know i got into

141

00:05:16,790 --> 00:05:15,360

recovery in 2015 and i can remember

142

00:05:18,310 --> 00:05:16,800

hearing the numbers you know we were we

143

00:05:21,189 --> 00:05:18,320

were talking somewhere in the range of

144

00:05:23,110 --> 00:05:21,199

47 000 49 000

145

00:05:24,390 --> 00:05:23,120

deaths to overdose and at that time in

146

00:05:25,749 --> 00:05:24,400

2015

147

00:05:28,310 --> 00:05:25,759

they were talking about it being

148

00:05:30,070 --> 00:05:28,320

historic highs right like this being a

149

00:05:31,350 --> 00:05:30,080

massive crisis that needed to be dealt

150

00:05:33,510 --> 00:05:31,360

with

151
00:05:36,469 --> 00:05:33,520
just last week actually the federal

152
00:05:39,270 --> 00:05:36,479
government updated their numbers just

153
00:05:41,830 --> 00:05:39,280
specific to drug overdose and it is now

154
00:05:44,710 --> 00:05:41,840
over a hundred and one thousand

155
00:05:47,749 --> 00:05:44,720
americans who have lost their lives to a

156
00:05:50,710 --> 00:05:47,759
preventable drug overdose and i say

157
00:05:52,950 --> 00:05:50,720
preventable because there's so much that

158
00:05:54,390 --> 00:05:52,960
the government could be doing and that

159
00:05:56,309 --> 00:05:54,400
local governments could be doing that

160
00:05:58,469 --> 00:05:56,319
would prevent these overdoses but

161
00:06:00,950 --> 00:05:58,479
they're not doing now to give you just

162
00:06:03,270 --> 00:06:00,960
the size and scope

163
00:06:04,629 --> 00:06:03,280

we believe i believe folks in my

164

00:06:06,550 --> 00:06:04,639

community believe

165

00:06:08,469 --> 00:06:06,560

that that hundred and one thousand

166

00:06:11,270 --> 00:06:08,479

number is actually

167

00:06:15,110 --> 00:06:11,280

grossly under reported

168

00:06:18,150 --> 00:06:15,120

i have friends who died of overdose but

169

00:06:20,230 --> 00:06:18,160

on their death certificates it shows

170

00:06:22,070 --> 00:06:20,240

not overdoses the primary cause of death

171

00:06:24,550 --> 00:06:22,080

but something else so it's not really

172

00:06:27,590 --> 00:06:24,560

necessarily reported as an overdose so

173

00:06:30,309 --> 00:06:27,600

we believe that data is tragically under

174

00:06:33,029 --> 00:06:30,319

reported and it is probably much more it

175

00:06:35,110 --> 00:06:33,039

also doesn't include alcohol poisoning

176

00:06:37,189 --> 00:06:35,120

or alcohol overdose if you were to

177

00:06:40,309 --> 00:06:37,199

include those numbers you'd probably be

178

00:06:43,670 --> 00:06:40,319

looking at closer to 375 400 000

179

00:06:46,150 --> 00:06:43,680

americans but just to keep it simple

180

00:06:49,830 --> 00:06:46,160

we're talking about 101 000

181

00:06:52,309 --> 00:06:49,840

mostly now coming from illicit fentanyl

182

00:06:54,070 --> 00:06:52,319

overdoses that are involved in these

183

00:06:56,150 --> 00:06:54,080

numbers but right now in the united

184

00:06:58,629 --> 00:06:56,160

states there's actually two federally

185

00:07:01,589 --> 00:06:58,639

declared public health crises one being

186

00:07:02,550 --> 00:07:01,599

covid the other one being drug overdose

187

00:07:04,629 --> 00:07:02,560

right

188

00:07:06,629 --> 00:07:04,639

if you look at the reported numbers

189

00:07:08,790 --> 00:07:06,639

right just what the government gives us

190

00:07:10,790 --> 00:07:08,800

right in terms of numbers you're looking

191

00:07:13,029 --> 00:07:10,800

somewhere around seven to eight hundred

192

00:07:15,909 --> 00:07:13,039

thousand cova deaths maybe a little bit

193

00:07:19,350 --> 00:07:15,919

more based on their data based on their

194

00:07:21,350 --> 00:07:19,360

data 101 000 overdose numbers so you're

195

00:07:24,309 --> 00:07:21,360

looking for about every seven to eight

196

00:07:26,469 --> 00:07:24,319

reported federal government data cova

197

00:07:30,550 --> 00:07:26,479

deaths you're looking at one drug

198

00:07:33,430 --> 00:07:30,560

overdose death yet federal spending on

199

00:07:34,629 --> 00:07:33,440

addressing the overdose crisis in this

200

00:07:37,749 --> 00:07:34,639

country

201
00:07:40,790 --> 00:07:37,759
is about 800 times less

202
00:07:43,430 --> 00:07:40,800
than what it is with covet like we get

203
00:07:45,589 --> 00:07:43,440
the sideline left and right

204
00:07:48,390 --> 00:07:45,599
it has a tremendous impact on our

205
00:07:50,950 --> 00:07:48,400
communities it has somewhere near a two

206
00:07:53,990 --> 00:07:50,960
and a half trillion dollar impact on the

207
00:07:57,350 --> 00:07:54,000
economy in terms of lost productivity

208
00:07:59,990 --> 00:07:57,360
wages health care costs it has a huge

209
00:08:02,390 --> 00:08:00,000
impact on our criminal justice system on

210
00:08:04,950 --> 00:08:02,400
our education system

211
00:08:06,710 --> 00:08:04,960
even if you identify as someone who

212
00:08:09,189 --> 00:08:06,720
doesn't know someone who struggles with

213
00:08:11,029 --> 00:08:09,199

addiction or you don't know someone

214

00:08:13,189 --> 00:08:11,039

who's died of an overdose i can

215

00:08:15,189 --> 00:08:13,199

guarantee you one way or another you are

216

00:08:17,270 --> 00:08:15,199

impacted either through your insurance

217

00:08:20,230 --> 00:08:17,280

rates the services your community is

218

00:08:23,110 --> 00:08:20,240

providing to you your taxes it impacts

219

00:08:25,830 --> 00:08:23,120

all of us yet we are seen as kind of

220

00:08:27,990 --> 00:08:25,840

this red-headed stepchild when it comes

221

00:08:30,869 --> 00:08:28,000

to providing services and i still

222

00:08:34,550 --> 00:08:30,879

believe that has a lot to do with

223

00:08:35,509 --> 00:08:34,560

generational and systemic stigma against

224

00:08:39,909 --> 00:08:35,519

people

225

00:08:42,070 --> 00:08:39,919

recovery and if the government doesn't

226

00:08:43,829 --> 00:08:42,080

get their act together if local

227

00:08:46,630 --> 00:08:43,839

communities don't get their act together

228

00:08:49,430 --> 00:08:46,640

to start addressing drug overdose like

229

00:08:51,190 --> 00:08:49,440

the national crisis that it is that

230

00:08:52,949 --> 00:08:51,200

number is going to continue to just

231

00:08:55,509 --> 00:08:52,959

skyrocket

232

00:08:57,350 --> 00:08:55,519

yes that is a great overview and good

233

00:09:00,070 --> 00:08:57,360

points too there are

234

00:09:02,230 --> 00:09:00,080

a lot of ways to move numbers the way

235

00:09:05,030 --> 00:09:02,240

you want them to go and data isn't

236

00:09:06,710 --> 00:09:05,040

always as neutral as we're told it is in

237

00:09:09,509 --> 00:09:06,720

really any case

238

00:09:11,269 --> 00:09:09,519

and not to talk too much about covet but

239

00:09:13,509 --> 00:09:11,279

it is also interesting that the very

240

00:09:15,829 --> 00:09:13,519

companies were told to trust to get us

241

00:09:18,870 --> 00:09:15,839

out of that mess are some of the same

242

00:09:19,829 --> 00:09:18,880

companies complicit in the opioid crisis

243

00:09:22,310 --> 00:09:19,839

right

244

00:09:24,230 --> 00:09:22,320

absolutely it's frustrating i mean it's

245

00:09:26,630 --> 00:09:24,240

absolutely frustrating

246

00:09:29,509 --> 00:09:26,640

i'll just pivot to this i mean

247

00:09:31,350 --> 00:09:29,519

we also have seen situations and even in

248

00:09:33,430 --> 00:09:31,360

purdue pharma i write about it in

249

00:09:36,310 --> 00:09:33,440

unsettled they

250

00:09:37,509 --> 00:09:36,320

unleashed oxycontin to an unsuspecting

251
00:09:40,230 --> 00:09:37,519
market

252
00:09:41,990 --> 00:09:40,240
they were in cohorts with the fda to get

253
00:09:45,030 --> 00:09:42,000
it approved

254
00:09:48,230 --> 00:09:45,040
they have pled guilty twice

255
00:09:50,550 --> 00:09:48,240
in federal court to crimes as a company

256
00:09:52,790 --> 00:09:50,560
yet they also were in development for an

257
00:09:55,110 --> 00:09:52,800
addiction treatment drug right

258
00:09:57,430 --> 00:09:55,120
they were just approved for a naloxone

259
00:09:59,670 --> 00:09:57,440
drug which is the anti-overdose

260
00:10:01,269 --> 00:09:59,680
anecdote just a couple of months ago

261
00:10:03,190 --> 00:10:01,279
right so it's like

262
00:10:05,590 --> 00:10:03,200
add to the problem and then create the

263
00:10:07,910 --> 00:10:05,600

cure you know so i mean we we've seen

264

00:10:09,910 --> 00:10:07,920

this happen time and again with

265

00:10:12,710 --> 00:10:09,920

pharmaceutical manufacturing

266

00:10:15,350 --> 00:10:12,720

distributing companies pfizer

267

00:10:18,069 --> 00:10:15,360

right now making the vaccine

268

00:10:20,310 --> 00:10:18,079

they have really dropped the ball in

269

00:10:21,750 --> 00:10:20,320

terms of production for naloxone and we

270

00:10:23,430 --> 00:10:21,760

have communities

271

00:10:25,990 --> 00:10:23,440

that are dying because they can't get

272

00:10:28,710 --> 00:10:26,000

that anti-overdose response measure

273

00:10:30,389 --> 00:10:28,720

because of all of the problems and the

274

00:10:31,990 --> 00:10:30,399

pipeline problems and production

275

00:10:34,310 --> 00:10:32,000

problems because they're so focused on

276

00:10:36,389 --> 00:10:34,320

the vaccine and it makes us really angry

277

00:10:38,550 --> 00:10:36,399

because i think you can walk and chew

278

00:10:41,110 --> 00:10:38,560

gum at the same time especially when

279

00:10:42,389 --> 00:10:41,120

you're a multi-billion dollar company

280

00:10:45,269 --> 00:10:42,399

like some of these pharmaceutical

281

00:10:50,630 --> 00:10:48,630

and i learned from your book that pfizer

282

00:10:52,710 --> 00:10:50,640

is largely a household name today

283

00:10:55,750 --> 00:10:52,720

because of the deceptive marketing

284

00:10:59,110 --> 00:10:55,760

tactics of arthur sackler that's right

285

00:11:01,750 --> 00:10:59,120

and johnson johnson is the company who

286

00:11:03,829 --> 00:11:01,760

synthesized or introduced fentanyl and

287

00:11:05,829 --> 00:11:03,839

you told me they actually have a hand in

288

00:11:07,990 --> 00:11:05,839

controlling some poppy fields in

289

00:11:10,790 --> 00:11:08,000

afghanistan yep so

290

00:11:12,790 --> 00:11:10,800

yeah a dirty world yeah arthur sackler

291

00:11:14,630 --> 00:11:12,800

right who's like the patriarch of the

292

00:11:17,829 --> 00:11:14,640

sackler family

293

00:11:20,550 --> 00:11:17,839

got his first gig really big gig with

294

00:11:22,550 --> 00:11:20,560

pfizer around marketing right

295

00:11:24,069 --> 00:11:22,560

and i write about it in unsettled at

296

00:11:26,630 --> 00:11:24,079

length but

297

00:11:29,509 --> 00:11:26,640

arthur sackler figured out a way to turn

298

00:11:31,509 --> 00:11:29,519

medicine into marketing he figured out

299

00:11:33,990 --> 00:11:31,519

how to market medicine

300

00:11:36,069 --> 00:11:34,000

the same way that we market mcdonald's

301
00:11:39,190 --> 00:11:36,079
coca-cola you know he can kind of be

302
00:11:41,750 --> 00:11:39,200
known as like the don draper of pills

303
00:11:46,389 --> 00:11:41,760
if you want to draw that type of analogy

304
00:11:48,310 --> 00:11:46,399
but pfizer was his first major client

305
00:11:50,629 --> 00:11:48,320
yeah i had that quote from your book the

306
00:11:53,350 --> 00:11:50,639
don draper of pills very good

307
00:11:55,190 --> 00:11:53,360
he apparently to quote the book he built

308
00:11:57,509 --> 00:11:55,200
his toxic empire through the magic of

309
00:11:59,190 --> 00:11:57,519
advertising through the magic of

310
00:12:00,949 --> 00:11:59,200
repeating the name of the drug and a

311
00:12:03,350 --> 00:12:00,959
claim about the drug and a lie about the

312
00:12:05,190 --> 00:12:03,360
drug over and over his brothers did it

313
00:12:07,829 --> 00:12:05,200

too and their kids did it and the

314

00:12:10,389 --> 00:12:07,839

company those kids owned purdue pharma

315

00:12:12,790 --> 00:12:10,399

built the world's most wildly ambitious

316

00:12:15,190 --> 00:12:12,800

marketing machine and salesforce to push

317

00:12:17,269 --> 00:12:15,200

a single pill oxycontin

318

00:12:19,269 --> 00:12:17,279

yeah and i mean greg like one of the

319

00:12:22,710 --> 00:12:19,279

more frustrating things too is even

320

00:12:24,629 --> 00:12:22,720

today right in 2022

321

00:12:26,550 --> 00:12:24,639

you know there's certain things that

322

00:12:28,550 --> 00:12:26,560

federal government regulators could do

323

00:12:30,069 --> 00:12:28,560

to prevent this and something that i

324

00:12:31,990 --> 00:12:30,079

have pushed for

325

00:12:34,389 --> 00:12:32,000

and many advocates in the drug policy

326

00:12:37,509 --> 00:12:34,399

community have pushed for and even pain

327

00:12:40,550 --> 00:12:37,519

advocates who rely on oxycontin and

328

00:12:43,590 --> 00:12:40,560

other opioids for massive chronic pain

329

00:12:46,389 --> 00:12:43,600

issues is a prohibition on marketing of

330

00:12:48,870 --> 00:12:46,399

these harmful substances right like what

331

00:12:51,430 --> 00:12:48,880

we're pushing for isn't to abolish

332

00:12:52,949 --> 00:12:51,440

opioids that's not the solution i mean

333

00:12:56,470 --> 00:12:52,959

there's people who rely on these

334

00:12:59,509 --> 00:12:56,480

medications for extraordinary pain

335

00:13:03,030 --> 00:12:59,519

the problem was the weaponization of the

336

00:13:05,110 --> 00:13:03,040

american medicine cabinet with oxycontin

337

00:13:07,509 --> 00:13:05,120

right the problem was the marketing and

338

00:13:10,389 --> 00:13:07,519

the flooding of these medications and

339

00:13:11,829 --> 00:13:10,399

pills into these communities with lies

340

00:13:14,550 --> 00:13:11,839

right so

341

00:13:17,030 --> 00:13:14,560

we need to figure out how we can have

342

00:13:20,629 --> 00:13:17,040

some sort of prohibition on marketing

343

00:13:22,790 --> 00:13:20,639

that has been a very very tough job

344

00:13:25,030 --> 00:13:22,800

with congress right in the fda and you

345

00:13:26,949 --> 00:13:25,040

can only imagine why because of the

346

00:13:29,670 --> 00:13:26,959

massive amount of political influence

347

00:13:31,509 --> 00:13:29,680

that these companies have on you know

348

00:13:34,790 --> 00:13:31,519

the federal government state governments

349

00:13:37,509 --> 00:13:34,800

even local governments it should really

350

00:13:38,389 --> 00:13:37,519

piss anybody off who looks under the

351
00:13:42,470 --> 00:13:38,399
hood

352
00:13:44,870 --> 00:13:42,480
for how this system works i had no idea

353
00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:44,880
what i was getting into when i signed up

354
00:13:49,910 --> 00:13:46,480
to be co-chair of that committee and was

355
00:13:52,790 --> 00:13:49,920
appointed by the doj what i saw

356
00:13:55,030 --> 00:13:52,800
was nothing other than a sham like a

357
00:13:55,910 --> 00:13:55,040
process of a sham

358
00:13:58,629 --> 00:13:55,920
from

359
00:14:00,710 --> 00:13:58,639
how we got into this mess to how it was

360
00:14:02,870 --> 00:14:00,720
dealt with in bankruptcy court the

361
00:14:08,150 --> 00:14:02,880
system was stacked against normal

362
00:14:11,509 --> 00:14:09,910
that is a common theme around here

363
00:14:13,509 --> 00:14:11,519

whatever the subject we are talking

364

00:14:15,590 --> 00:14:13,519

about is and

365

00:14:17,590 --> 00:14:15,600

when it comes to the marketing what are

366

00:14:19,670 --> 00:14:17,600

some of the biggest lies in that

367

00:14:21,430 --> 00:14:19,680

marketing that it's non-addictive and

368

00:14:22,710 --> 00:14:21,440

safe and effective i would assume but

369

00:14:24,310 --> 00:14:22,720

maybe there are some others that aren't

370

00:14:26,870 --> 00:14:24,320

quite as obvious

371

00:14:27,750 --> 00:14:26,880

sure so like let's start really quick

372

00:14:31,269 --> 00:14:27,760

with

373

00:14:32,150 --> 00:14:31,279

going back into the 90s right late 90s

374

00:14:35,590 --> 00:14:32,160

when

375

00:14:36,629 --> 00:14:35,600

the fda gave the drug approval new drug

376
00:14:38,870 --> 00:14:36,639
approval

377
00:14:41,269 --> 00:14:38,880
known as an nda to

378
00:14:43,829 --> 00:14:41,279
purdue pharma

379
00:14:46,310 --> 00:14:43,839
the drug was approved by a

380
00:14:49,829 --> 00:14:46,320
nda officer that worked for the fda

381
00:14:54,389 --> 00:14:49,839
called curtis wright dr curtis wright

382
00:14:56,949 --> 00:14:54,399
dr wright actually invited purdue pharma

383
00:14:59,590 --> 00:14:56,959
to a hotel

384
00:15:02,150 --> 00:14:59,600
in rockville maryland that was only

385
00:15:04,870 --> 00:15:02,160
about a couple blocks away from the fda

386
00:15:07,750 --> 00:15:04,880
to meet with him and essentially let

387
00:15:09,829 --> 00:15:07,760
purdue pharma write their own

388
00:15:12,230 --> 00:15:09,839

new drug approval

389

00:15:15,990 --> 00:15:12,240

recommendation to the fda that curtis

390

00:15:19,430 --> 00:15:16,000

wright submitted under his own name

391

00:15:22,629 --> 00:15:19,440

surprise surprise dr wright left the fda

392

00:15:24,710 --> 00:15:22,639

shortly after oxycontin was approved

393

00:15:28,069 --> 00:15:24,720

and put onto the market and took a 400

394

00:15:30,470 --> 00:15:28,079

000 job at purdue right so i mean if

395

00:15:32,870 --> 00:15:30,480

that doesn't scream corruption to you

396

00:15:36,389 --> 00:15:32,880

i don't know what does

397

00:15:39,189 --> 00:15:36,399

where purdue was really able to

398

00:15:41,990 --> 00:15:39,199

sneak into the market under the claim

399

00:15:44,629 --> 00:15:42,000

that it was less than one percent

400

00:15:46,389 --> 00:15:44,639

addictive to folks who took it

401
00:15:48,790 --> 00:15:46,399
was something called the delayed

402
00:15:51,430 --> 00:15:48,800
absorption statement right

403
00:15:53,509 --> 00:15:51,440
it was on the black box warning that the

404
00:15:55,670 --> 00:15:53,519
fda approved the delayed absorption

405
00:15:58,949 --> 00:15:55,680
statement basically said that

406
00:16:01,509 --> 00:15:58,959
because oxycontin had this protective

407
00:16:04,069 --> 00:16:01,519
coating on it that it would be released

408
00:16:05,829 --> 00:16:04,079
into the bloodstream over 12 hours it

409
00:16:08,790 --> 00:16:05,839
wouldn't be something that you know

410
00:16:11,110 --> 00:16:08,800
would be instant release or also

411
00:16:13,110 --> 00:16:11,120
otherwise known as ir

412
00:16:15,749 --> 00:16:13,120
and because of this delayed absorption

413
00:16:18,150 --> 00:16:15,759

of the product of the medication it was

414

00:16:20,150 --> 00:16:18,160

less than one percent addictive the fda

415

00:16:21,269 --> 00:16:20,160

allowed that right allowed that

416

00:16:24,629 --> 00:16:21,279

marketing

417

00:16:26,470 --> 00:16:24,639

curtis wright wrote it and purdue

418

00:16:28,790 --> 00:16:26,480

really doubled down

419

00:16:31,590 --> 00:16:28,800

on that messaging they

420

00:16:34,870 --> 00:16:31,600

hired doctors they had massive amounts

421

00:16:37,590 --> 00:16:34,880

of television ads they did educational

422

00:16:39,910 --> 00:16:37,600

forums with different pain management

423

00:16:41,829 --> 00:16:39,920

folks here in the united states and

424

00:16:43,590 --> 00:16:41,839

abroad where they hammered that

425

00:16:45,509 --> 00:16:43,600

messaging into them that it was less

426
00:16:47,910 --> 00:16:45,519
than one percent addictive that this was

427
00:16:49,910 --> 00:16:47,920
a revolutionary drug that was going to

428
00:16:53,910 --> 00:16:49,920
just change the course of how we treated

429
00:16:57,990 --> 00:16:53,920
pain now what we saw as a result of that

430
00:16:59,590 --> 00:16:58,000
was a market right that was craving the

431
00:17:02,430 --> 00:16:59,600
medication because they were being

432
00:17:05,350 --> 00:17:02,440
prescribed to it for things like

433
00:17:07,909 --> 00:17:05,360
fibromyalgia and you know minor back

434
00:17:10,230 --> 00:17:07,919
pain and minor surgeries and sport

435
00:17:11,350 --> 00:17:10,240
injuries for kids who were in high

436
00:17:13,189 --> 00:17:11,360
school

437
00:17:16,549 --> 00:17:13,199
and the market continued to grow and

438
00:17:19,029 --> 00:17:16,559

then we started to see this ballooning

439

00:17:21,590 --> 00:17:19,039

pill mill epidemic which is how i got

440

00:17:23,429 --> 00:17:21,600

caught up in it in the early 2000s

441

00:17:26,029 --> 00:17:23,439

doctors literally coming out of

442

00:17:28,950 --> 00:17:26,039

retirement who were optimologists and

443

00:17:31,590 --> 00:17:28,960

gynecologists and were not pain specific

444

00:17:34,150 --> 00:17:31,600

doctors saw the dollar signs saw the

445

00:17:36,150 --> 00:17:34,160

incentives that were coming from purdue

446

00:17:38,549 --> 00:17:36,160

and companies like it and were opening

447

00:17:39,590 --> 00:17:38,559

these clinics everywhere and before you

448

00:17:42,070 --> 00:17:39,600

knew it

449

00:17:44,070 --> 00:17:42,080

oxycontin became a cure-all pill for

450

00:17:45,990 --> 00:17:44,080

everything i can remember my doctor

451
00:17:48,549 --> 00:17:46,000
telling me that it even would help with

452
00:17:51,830 --> 00:17:48,559
my depression i had a doctor that told

453
00:17:54,390 --> 00:17:51,840
me not to worry that if i felt kind of

454
00:17:56,230 --> 00:17:54,400
woozy or i or i was feeling a little

455
00:17:58,870 --> 00:17:56,240
sick if i didn't have the medication

456
00:18:00,950 --> 00:17:58,880
that this was just very normal for

457
00:18:03,029 --> 00:18:00,960
people who were on these and

458
00:18:04,950 --> 00:18:03,039
it didn't mean that i was drug dependent

459
00:18:07,830 --> 00:18:04,960
or i was addicted

460
00:18:11,190 --> 00:18:07,840
it just meant that i was quote unquote

461
00:18:14,710 --> 00:18:11,200
pseudo addicted which was a term coined

462
00:18:17,430 --> 00:18:14,720
by dr david haddix at purdue pharma who

463
00:18:20,549 --> 00:18:17,440

work for purdue who just made this term

464

00:18:23,430 --> 00:18:20,559

up out of nowhere printed it in medical

465

00:18:26,070 --> 00:18:23,440

journals that said that pseudo addiction

466

00:18:28,950 --> 00:18:26,080

is just it feels like addiction but it's

467

00:18:31,190 --> 00:18:28,960

not really addiction because you have a

468

00:18:33,990 --> 00:18:31,200

significant pain issue i mean the whole

469

00:18:36,549 --> 00:18:34,000

thing was a racket now underneath this

470

00:18:37,669 --> 00:18:36,559

though the federal government and state

471

00:18:39,029 --> 00:18:37,679

governments

472

00:18:40,870 --> 00:18:39,039

didn't just

473

00:18:43,830 --> 00:18:40,880

allow this to happen they almost

474

00:18:45,990 --> 00:18:43,840

incentivized it to happen right

475

00:18:49,830 --> 00:18:46,000

it's frustrating because it was just a

476

00:18:52,630 --> 00:18:49,840

fix all 360.

477

00:18:55,510 --> 00:18:52,640

yeah and good point about

478

00:18:58,070 --> 00:18:55,520

what doctors tell their patients because

479

00:18:59,590 --> 00:18:58,080

i think with this issue there's a lot of

480

00:19:01,909 --> 00:18:59,600

uh

481

00:19:04,070 --> 00:19:01,919

maybe victim blaming or just a lack of

482

00:19:05,510 --> 00:19:04,080

empathy people say things like well if

483

00:19:07,669 --> 00:19:05,520

you're stupid enough to get hooked on

484

00:19:08,549 --> 00:19:07,679

oxycontin i don't know what to tell you

485

00:19:11,110 --> 00:19:08,559

and

486

00:19:13,190 --> 00:19:11,120

the reality is that people in the early

487

00:19:15,430 --> 00:19:13,200

stages before this drug had the

488

00:19:17,590 --> 00:19:15,440

reputation it has they're told by their

489

00:19:19,830 --> 00:19:17,600

doctors that it's not addictive that

490

00:19:21,830 --> 00:19:19,840

it'll help with depression all kinds of

491

00:19:24,310 --> 00:19:21,840

things and that's obviously because

492

00:19:26,310 --> 00:19:24,320

they're getting their kickbacks but you

493

00:19:28,230 --> 00:19:26,320

gotta have some empathy for people who

494

00:19:30,710 --> 00:19:28,240

are straight up lied to maybe if someone

495

00:19:32,310 --> 00:19:30,720

gets hooked on oxycontin today with all

496

00:19:34,070 --> 00:19:32,320

the things we know about it maybe you

497

00:19:35,830 --> 00:19:34,080

wouldn't have the same level of sympathy

498

00:19:38,150 --> 00:19:35,840

but the reason it got the reputation it

499

00:19:40,630 --> 00:19:38,160

did is because it did so much damage

500

00:19:45,350 --> 00:19:40,640

before people really knew

501
00:19:46,789 --> 00:19:45,360
right and i mean it's hard for me to

502
00:19:48,390 --> 00:19:46,799
sometimes

503
00:19:52,789 --> 00:19:48,400
look back to

504
00:19:55,350 --> 00:19:52,799
2003 2004 when i really started using

505
00:19:56,870 --> 00:19:55,360
these medications a lot particularly

506
00:19:58,789 --> 00:19:56,880
oxycontin

507
00:20:01,190 --> 00:19:58,799
and i feel

508
00:20:03,350 --> 00:20:01,200
naive right because i wish i would have

509
00:20:05,190 --> 00:20:03,360
known then what i know now and i

510
00:20:07,190 --> 00:20:05,200
sometimes have to look back and try and

511
00:20:10,549 --> 00:20:07,200
put myself in my shoes where i was in

512
00:20:12,470 --> 00:20:10,559
2003 2004 and i can tell you and i know

513
00:20:15,590 --> 00:20:12,480

it sounds a little ridiculous if you're

514

00:20:16,789 --> 00:20:15,600

new to this subject but at the time i

515

00:20:19,510 --> 00:20:16,799

really

516

00:20:21,029 --> 00:20:19,520

did not make the connection between

517

00:20:22,789 --> 00:20:21,039

oxycontin

518

00:20:25,669 --> 00:20:22,799

and then potentially

519

00:20:28,230 --> 00:20:25,679

losing my life being unemployed becoming

520

00:20:31,190 --> 00:20:28,240

homeless becoming dependent like my

521

00:20:34,149 --> 00:20:31,200

entire survival part of my brain just

522

00:20:36,789 --> 00:20:34,159

dependent on this one medication

523

00:20:39,990 --> 00:20:36,799

i thought that it was as normal as

524

00:20:42,230 --> 00:20:40,000

aspirin as crazy as that sounds i can

525

00:20:44,630 --> 00:20:42,240

remember getting my first prescription

526

00:20:47,669 --> 00:20:44,640

and being told like this is gonna

527

00:20:49,909 --> 00:20:47,679

provide a tremendous amount of

528

00:20:51,270 --> 00:20:49,919

alleviating of pain symptoms and other

529

00:20:53,270 --> 00:20:51,280

symptoms that i have and it's going to

530

00:20:55,270 --> 00:20:53,280

make me more productive and i remember

531

00:20:56,470 --> 00:20:55,280

having that pill bottle with my name on

532

00:21:03,750 --> 00:20:56,480

it

533

00:21:05,590 --> 00:21:03,760

the office i had other colleagues who

534

00:21:08,070 --> 00:21:05,600

were on it you know and like isn't that

535

00:21:09,669 --> 00:21:08,080

oxycontin just like a miracle drug and i

536

00:21:11,909 --> 00:21:09,679

was working in politics at the time

537

00:21:13,430 --> 00:21:11,919

right i can remember i mean family

538

00:21:15,430 --> 00:21:13,440

members of mine who had headaches and

539

00:21:17,029 --> 00:21:15,440

asked me if they could have half of an

540

00:21:18,230 --> 00:21:17,039

oxy because it will solve it and they've

541

00:21:19,990 --> 00:21:18,240

heard so many great things about the

542

00:21:22,149 --> 00:21:20,000

drug i mean like

543

00:21:23,270 --> 00:21:22,159

we just didn't know and this was

544

00:21:25,669 --> 00:21:23,280

happening

545

00:21:29,270 --> 00:21:25,679

in millions of households across the

546

00:21:31,110 --> 00:21:29,280

country and it just spread like wildfire

547

00:21:33,110 --> 00:21:31,120

part of the crime though

548

00:21:35,510 --> 00:21:33,120

was that the dea

549

00:21:37,590 --> 00:21:35,520

right who many will lift up and say look

550

00:21:39,190 --> 00:21:37,600

at all the great work that the dea has

551
00:21:41,350 --> 00:21:39,200
done on this issue well yeah i mean

552
00:21:44,070 --> 00:21:41,360
their little johnny come lately but if

553
00:21:47,590 --> 00:21:44,080
you ask me the dea kind of gaslit this

554
00:21:50,310 --> 00:21:47,600
as well because the dea had the data

555
00:21:53,830 --> 00:21:50,320
they had the data the prescribing data

556
00:21:55,669 --> 00:21:53,840
that showed how much oxy was being

557
00:21:58,390 --> 00:21:55,679
prescribed in these communities and they

558
00:22:01,190 --> 00:21:58,400
did nothing about it they just

559
00:22:02,870 --> 00:22:01,200
allowed it to happen purdue

560
00:22:03,830 --> 00:22:02,880
knew what was happening and when these

561
00:22:05,590 --> 00:22:03,840
drugs

562
00:22:07,669 --> 00:22:05,600
started showing up

563
00:22:10,549 --> 00:22:07,679

in the mid 2000s

564

00:22:14,230 --> 00:22:10,559

in the pockets of coal miners in

565

00:22:15,990 --> 00:22:14,240

appalachia who were overdosing or

566

00:22:17,669 --> 00:22:16,000

ending up dead

567

00:22:19,110 --> 00:22:17,679

and data started to come in that these

568

00:22:21,590 --> 00:22:19,120

deaths were

569

00:22:22,870 --> 00:22:21,600

possibly connected to this pill this

570

00:22:24,950 --> 00:22:22,880

medication

571

00:22:28,029 --> 00:22:24,960

nobody did anything we could imagine a

572

00:22:31,909 --> 00:22:28,039

different world where in you know 2004

573

00:22:33,029 --> 00:22:31,919

2005 you know the dea has got this data

574

00:22:36,710 --> 00:22:33,039

and

575

00:22:38,630 --> 00:22:36,720

hey

576

00:22:40,870 --> 00:22:38,640

this is a problem this medication's

577

00:22:42,789 --> 00:22:40,880

killing people we should do something

578

00:22:44,710 --> 00:22:42,799

about it maybe we need to scale back

579

00:22:46,789 --> 00:22:44,720

maybe we need to look at the formulation

580

00:22:49,029 --> 00:22:46,799

maybe we need to not look at this claim

581

00:22:52,230 --> 00:22:49,039

we've got around delayed absorption and

582

00:22:54,950 --> 00:22:52,240

one percent of folks getting addicted no

583

00:22:57,669 --> 00:22:54,960

that's not what happened they pled

584

00:23:01,029 --> 00:22:57,679

guilty in 2007

585

00:23:03,110 --> 00:23:01,039

three executives pled guilty of which

586

00:23:05,830 --> 00:23:03,120

none of them served any jail time it was

587

00:23:07,430 --> 00:23:05,840

just massive civil criminal fines with

588

00:23:09,590 --> 00:23:07,440

department of justice in about i think

589

00:23:11,270 --> 00:23:09,600

it was about 600 million dollars and you

590

00:23:13,430 --> 00:23:11,280

would think hey

591

00:23:14,950 --> 00:23:13,440

it would end right there right we're

592

00:23:16,630 --> 00:23:14,960

gonna do something about this we're

593

00:23:18,630 --> 00:23:16,640

gonna change this

594

00:23:20,390 --> 00:23:18,640

no instead

595

00:23:25,669 --> 00:23:20,400

they doubled down

596

00:23:28,710 --> 00:23:25,679

what they were doing except worse and

597

00:23:30,149 --> 00:23:28,720

more people continued to die

598

00:23:32,549 --> 00:23:30,159

ugh

599

00:23:34,230 --> 00:23:32,559

man and just to elaborate on your

600

00:23:36,310 --> 00:23:34,240

personal story a little bit more yeah

601
00:23:38,470 --> 00:23:36,320
you used to work in the white house you

602
00:23:41,110 --> 00:23:38,480
were at a very high level uh doing what

603
00:23:43,590 --> 00:23:41,120
you do oxycodone also wasn't the first

604
00:23:46,310 --> 00:23:43,600
thing you were prescribed anyway

605
00:23:48,070 --> 00:23:46,320
and i'm just curious when you knew it

606
00:23:49,590 --> 00:23:48,080
was a problem because the transition

607
00:23:51,909 --> 00:23:49,600
that seems difficult for me to

608
00:23:54,950 --> 00:23:51,919
understand from an outsider perspective

609
00:23:55,669 --> 00:23:54,960
is moving from a prescription medication

610
00:23:57,350 --> 00:23:55,679
to

611
00:23:59,590 --> 00:23:57,360
shooting up heroin with a needle and

612
00:24:00,950 --> 00:23:59,600
having it run your life is that just

613
00:24:03,669 --> 00:24:00,960

what happens when they won't give you

614

00:24:04,470 --> 00:24:03,679

the pills anymore talk to us about that

615

00:24:05,830 --> 00:24:04,480

real

616

00:24:08,710 --> 00:24:05,840

rock bottom

617

00:24:10,710 --> 00:24:08,720

place and and how you really get there

618

00:24:12,789 --> 00:24:10,720

yeah that's a great question greg so i

619

00:24:14,710 --> 00:24:12,799

mean you're right you know i was

620

00:24:15,669 --> 00:24:14,720

very interested in politics from a young

621

00:24:18,950 --> 00:24:15,679

age

622

00:24:21,590 --> 00:24:18,960

i did land a job in the white house when

623

00:24:23,590 --> 00:24:21,600

i was in college left that job in the

624

00:24:25,990 --> 00:24:23,600

early 2000s and took a political

625

00:24:27,990 --> 00:24:26,000

organizing job in dc and

626
00:24:31,510 --> 00:24:28,000
had a really bad slip and fall like you

627
00:24:33,269 --> 00:24:31,520
said in 2003 which cracked my ankle and

628
00:24:34,950 --> 00:24:33,279
my knee and ended up in the care of an

629
00:24:36,789 --> 00:24:34,960
urgent care physician

630
00:24:37,990 --> 00:24:36,799
right outside of maryland and that

631
00:24:39,909 --> 00:24:38,000
physician

632
00:24:41,510 --> 00:24:39,919
wrapped my my leg and said hey you're

633
00:24:42,870 --> 00:24:41,520
going to need to get an mri here and get

634
00:24:44,070 --> 00:24:42,880
this checked out but in the meantime

635
00:24:44,870 --> 00:24:44,080
here's a prescription to help with the

636
00:24:47,190 --> 00:24:44,880
pain

637
00:24:48,870 --> 00:24:47,200
and it was dilaudid which is for folks

638
00:24:50,230 --> 00:24:48,880

who don't know it's a very high grade

639

00:24:51,990 --> 00:24:50,240

opioid it's

640

00:24:52,870 --> 00:24:52,000

kind of you know strong morphine in a

641

00:24:54,470 --> 00:24:52,880

pill

642

00:24:56,070 --> 00:24:54,480

and what i didn't know at the time is

643

00:24:59,110 --> 00:24:56,080

that actually was a purdue product as

644

00:25:02,710 --> 00:24:59,120

well dilaudid is a brand purdue product

645

00:25:03,590 --> 00:25:02,720

and it didn't my journey to homelessness

646

00:25:09,190 --> 00:25:03,600

and

647

00:25:11,190 --> 00:25:09,200

life

648

00:25:15,029 --> 00:25:11,200

wasn't too much of a protracted journey

649

00:25:17,110 --> 00:25:15,039

and it did happen over time i

650

00:25:18,710 --> 00:25:17,120

had to move back home to florida shortly

651
00:25:20,070 --> 00:25:18,720
after that injury because my father had

652
00:25:22,070 --> 00:25:20,080
passed away

653
00:25:23,669 --> 00:25:22,080
and i remember going into my primary

654
00:25:25,110 --> 00:25:23,679
care physician and saying hey doc i've

655
00:25:26,870 --> 00:25:25,120
got this problem with my knee in my

656
00:25:28,789 --> 00:25:26,880
ankle i was seeing this urgent care

657
00:25:30,470 --> 00:25:28,799
physician in maryland you know what do i

658
00:25:32,390 --> 00:25:30,480
do and my doc was like oh no i don't do

659
00:25:34,789 --> 00:25:32,400
pain management but if you look in the

660
00:25:38,070 --> 00:25:34,799
back of the miami new times you'll see

661
00:25:39,830 --> 00:25:38,080
there's like hundreds of places that do

662
00:25:41,990 --> 00:25:39,840
and that's what i did i looked in the

663
00:25:43,430 --> 00:25:42,000

back of the new times and i mean i

664

00:25:45,830 --> 00:25:43,440

remember the ads it was like we

665

00:25:48,149 --> 00:25:45,840

prescribe oxy we take care of your pain

666

00:25:49,590 --> 00:25:48,159

we guarantee you'll be pain-free within

667

00:25:52,390 --> 00:25:49,600

48 hours

668

00:25:53,269 --> 00:25:52,400

call us see doctor so and so

669

00:25:55,190 --> 00:25:53,279

and

670

00:25:57,190 --> 00:25:55,200

when you look at the amount of pain

671

00:25:59,269 --> 00:25:57,200

clinics that existed

672

00:26:01,029 --> 00:25:59,279

and this is a real number there were

673

00:26:02,630 --> 00:26:01,039

more pain clinics where i lived in

674

00:26:04,630 --> 00:26:02,640

broward county florida miami-dade and

675

00:26:06,710 --> 00:26:04,640

broward county florida than there were

676
00:26:08,789 --> 00:26:06,720
7-elevens in mcdonald's i mean there

677
00:26:09,830 --> 00:26:08,799
were that many

678
00:26:12,310 --> 00:26:09,840
and

679
00:26:14,789 --> 00:26:12,320
after my first visit with my first pain

680
00:26:17,430 --> 00:26:14,799
doctor which was a woman named dr julia

681
00:26:19,990 --> 00:26:17,440
she had prescribed my first oxycontin

682
00:26:22,070 --> 00:26:20,000
and over time

683
00:26:24,470 --> 00:26:22,080
i started to develop a physical

684
00:26:26,870 --> 00:26:24,480
dependence although i didn't really

685
00:26:29,510 --> 00:26:26,880
again connect the dots because i was

686
00:26:32,630 --> 00:26:29,520
taking them as prescribed i was taking

687
00:26:34,310 --> 00:26:32,640
them every 12 hours but my body if i

688
00:26:35,990 --> 00:26:34,320

didn't have them every 12 hours would

689

00:26:37,430 --> 00:26:36,000

start to go into what we know as

690

00:26:41,990 --> 00:26:37,440

withdrawal

691

00:26:44,870 --> 00:26:42,000

the time and i can remember

692

00:26:46,710 --> 00:26:44,880

late 2004 i was sitting in my office

693

00:26:47,830 --> 00:26:46,720

i had missed my doctor's appointment

694

00:26:50,870 --> 00:26:47,840

that morning

695

00:26:53,269 --> 00:26:50,880

and i thought no problem you know i'll

696

00:26:54,950 --> 00:26:53,279

just make another appointment tomorrow

697

00:26:56,789 --> 00:26:54,960

or the next day and i'll i'll get to see

698

00:26:58,470 --> 00:26:56,799

the doc and get my medication refilled

699

00:26:59,430 --> 00:26:58,480

it'll be fine you know i'll just trudge

700

00:27:01,510 --> 00:26:59,440

through

701
00:27:03,029 --> 00:27:01,520
and by about five o'clock

702
00:27:04,149 --> 00:27:03,039
when the day ended

703
00:27:12,789 --> 00:27:04,159
i

704
00:27:15,110 --> 00:27:12,799
sweat and my stomach was really upset

705
00:27:17,029 --> 00:27:15,120
and i went into the bathroom and i

706
00:27:19,190 --> 00:27:17,039
splashed some water in my face

707
00:27:21,190 --> 00:27:19,200
and i looked at myself and i said

708
00:27:23,590 --> 00:27:21,200
could this maybe have anything to do

709
00:27:25,669 --> 00:27:23,600
with the medication they came back to my

710
00:27:27,350 --> 00:27:25,679
desk and googled and you know sure

711
00:27:29,669 --> 00:27:27,360
enough

712
00:27:31,029 --> 00:27:29,679
yeah it was a result of not having my

713
00:27:33,110 --> 00:27:31,039

meds and

714

00:27:34,710 --> 00:27:33,120

i was so sick at the time my first

715

00:27:37,350 --> 00:27:34,720

thought wasn't

716

00:27:38,710 --> 00:27:37,360

hey ryan you might have a problem you

717

00:27:42,950 --> 00:27:38,720

may need to

718

00:27:45,190 --> 00:27:42,960

to your doctor or something no my first

719

00:27:46,549 --> 00:27:45,200

thought was i need more medication

720

00:27:48,950 --> 00:27:46,559

so i called another doctor and got

721

00:27:51,669 --> 00:27:48,960

another script and before you know it my

722

00:27:53,510 --> 00:27:51,679

tolerance kept going up and it got to a

723

00:27:55,909 --> 00:27:53,520

point where in order for me to function

724

00:27:57,830 --> 00:27:55,919

over the course of three or four years

725

00:27:59,350 --> 00:27:57,840

i needed those pills if i didn't have

726

00:28:00,789 --> 00:27:59,360

those pills for anybody who's listening

727

00:28:02,470 --> 00:28:00,799

if you haven't been through withdrawal

728

00:28:03,990 --> 00:28:02,480

or seen somebody you love go through

729

00:28:04,950 --> 00:28:04,000

opioid withdrawal

730

00:28:06,549 --> 00:28:04,960

it is

731

00:28:09,029 --> 00:28:06,559

single-handedly

732

00:28:11,830 --> 00:28:09,039

one of the worst experiences a human

733

00:28:13,830 --> 00:28:11,840

being physically can go through

734

00:28:16,070 --> 00:28:13,840

you can't get out of bed your mind

735

00:28:18,389 --> 00:28:16,080

doesn't work your entire survival system

736

00:28:21,110 --> 00:28:18,399

of your brain is hijacked

737

00:28:23,750 --> 00:28:21,120

having the medication is more important

738

00:28:24,950 --> 00:28:23,760

to you than basic needs such as food and

739

00:28:27,029 --> 00:28:24,960

shelter

740

00:28:28,630 --> 00:28:27,039

it's impossible to work if you don't

741

00:28:30,549 --> 00:28:28,640

have the medication

742

00:28:32,389 --> 00:28:30,559

i was completely hooked and i was

743

00:28:33,909 --> 00:28:32,399

already beyond the point of just being

744

00:28:37,909 --> 00:28:33,919

able to stop

745

00:28:40,149 --> 00:28:37,919

so fast forward two or three years

746

00:28:41,830 --> 00:28:40,159

i was at a point where i

747

00:28:43,750 --> 00:28:41,840

knew i had a problem

748

00:28:44,789 --> 00:28:43,760

i had identified i had a problem but i

749

00:28:47,029 --> 00:28:44,799

was

750

00:28:49,190 --> 00:28:47,039

unable to get help

751
00:28:50,230 --> 00:28:49,200
it just wasn't available to me

752
00:28:51,350 --> 00:28:50,240
and

753
00:29:30,950 --> 00:28:51,360
i

754
00:29:32,549 --> 00:29:30,960
there were all these people that were

755
00:29:34,950 --> 00:29:32,559
taking these medications and they were

756
00:29:37,510 --> 00:29:34,960
seeing overdose numbers spike

757
00:29:39,269 --> 00:29:37,520
and the state of florida legislature

758
00:29:40,789 --> 00:29:39,279
decided the way to do it was just to cut

759
00:29:42,710 --> 00:29:40,799
off the supply

760
00:29:44,630 --> 00:29:42,720
they were going to create this

761
00:29:47,269 --> 00:29:44,640
prescription drug monitoring database

762
00:29:49,590 --> 00:29:47,279
which is now known as a pdmp which does

763
00:29:51,750 --> 00:29:49,600

a lot of good right now in 2022 because

764

00:29:53,190 --> 00:29:51,760

it provides us some needed data but when

765

00:29:55,190 --> 00:29:53,200

it first started

766

00:29:57,430 --> 00:29:55,200

it was all about just kind of tracking

767

00:29:59,750 --> 00:29:57,440

the people who are using the medications

768

00:30:02,070 --> 00:29:59,760

using too many of the medications seeing

769

00:30:03,830 --> 00:30:02,080

more than one doctor which i was

770

00:30:05,990 --> 00:30:03,840

and cutting them off right basically

771

00:30:08,310 --> 00:30:06,000

saying it's the patient's problem it's

772

00:30:09,590 --> 00:30:08,320

the addict's problem it's definitely not

773

00:30:11,909 --> 00:30:09,600

the doctor

774

00:30:13,350 --> 00:30:11,919

and i showed up at one of my doctor's

775

00:30:15,029 --> 00:30:13,360

appointments

776

00:30:16,870 --> 00:30:15,039

coming to the late 2000s i think around

777

00:30:18,630 --> 00:30:16,880

2008 2009

778

00:30:21,029 --> 00:30:18,640

and the doctor who knew

779

00:30:22,549 --> 00:30:21,039

i had been misusing the medications the

780

00:30:25,110 --> 00:30:22,559

doctor i was seeing was actually

781

00:30:27,750 --> 00:30:25,120

misusing the medications themselves

782

00:30:28,870 --> 00:30:27,760

i had seen her high multiple times in

783

00:30:31,350 --> 00:30:28,880

the office

784

00:30:33,909 --> 00:30:31,360

and i walked in to get my script and she

785

00:30:36,870 --> 00:30:33,919

pulls out this long rap sheet and she's

786

00:30:39,269 --> 00:30:36,880

like you're getting too much medication

787

00:30:40,789 --> 00:30:39,279

you're seeing too many doctors

788

00:30:43,190 --> 00:30:40,799

we have this new law in the state of

789

00:30:45,590 --> 00:30:43,200

florida i could lose my license if i

790

00:30:48,549 --> 00:30:45,600

prescribe this to you today you're a

791

00:30:50,870 --> 00:30:48,559

junkie you're a drug seeker i shouldn't

792

00:30:53,190 --> 00:30:50,880

be treating you get the hell out of my

793

00:30:56,230 --> 00:30:53,200

office if you ever come back here i'm

794

00:30:57,430 --> 00:30:56,240

gonna have you arrested for trespassing

795

00:30:59,590 --> 00:30:57,440

right

796

00:31:01,750 --> 00:30:59,600

mind you this is after she took my 200

797

00:31:03,750 --> 00:31:01,760

cash for my appointment and i remember

798

00:31:06,149 --> 00:31:03,760

looking at her and saying what do you

799

00:31:08,389 --> 00:31:06,159

mean how am i supposed to survive

800

00:31:10,710 --> 00:31:08,399

what am i supposed to do i need this

801
00:31:12,789 --> 00:31:10,720
medication i was sick i was in

802
00:31:14,710 --> 00:31:12,799
withdrawal she said i don't care get the

803
00:31:17,110 --> 00:31:14,720
hell out of my office

804
00:31:18,870 --> 00:31:17,120
and this wasn't just happening to me

805
00:31:21,110 --> 00:31:18,880
this was happening to thousands of

806
00:31:21,990 --> 00:31:21,120
people all across the state at the same

807
00:31:24,950 --> 00:31:22,000
time

808
00:31:27,669 --> 00:31:24,960
and when i walked out of that office

809
00:31:28,630 --> 00:31:27,679
you know people think seeking help is

810
00:31:30,789 --> 00:31:28,640
easy

811
00:31:34,549 --> 00:31:30,799
it's not particularly when you're in

812
00:31:36,549 --> 00:31:34,559
withdrawal all you want is that next hit

813
00:31:37,590 --> 00:31:36,559

and there was a heroin dealer right

814

00:31:39,590 --> 00:31:37,600

there

815

00:31:41,430 --> 00:31:39,600

in that parking lot

816

00:31:44,549 --> 00:31:41,440

who was willing to get me well right

817

00:31:47,590 --> 00:31:44,559

there and heroin was cheaper

818

00:31:49,190 --> 00:31:47,600

way cheaper than the medication it was

819

00:31:51,590 --> 00:31:49,200

more available

820

00:31:53,350 --> 00:31:51,600

i didn't need to go to a doctor and it

821

00:31:54,630 --> 00:31:53,360

did the trick for what i was looking for

822

00:31:57,190 --> 00:31:54,640

at the time

823

00:31:59,350 --> 00:31:57,200

and that's how i ended up addicted to

824

00:32:02,710 --> 00:31:59,360

heroin that's how i almost lost my life

825

00:32:05,029 --> 00:32:02,720

that's how i became an iv user

826

00:32:07,590 --> 00:32:05,039

and it's scary when i think back you

827

00:32:09,590 --> 00:32:07,600

know and thank god i i say to my partner

828

00:32:12,310 --> 00:32:09,600

and my family all the time

829

00:32:15,430 --> 00:32:12,320

that this didn't happen to me

830

00:32:17,590 --> 00:32:15,440

now in 2022 because the drug supply is

831

00:32:19,830 --> 00:32:17,600

poisoned with fentanyl i probably would

832

00:32:21,430 --> 00:32:19,840

not be here today to tell this story but

833

00:32:23,830 --> 00:32:21,440

that's how it happened to me and that's

834

00:32:25,430 --> 00:32:23,840

how it happened to many others across

835

00:32:27,909 --> 00:32:25,440

this country

836

00:32:29,509 --> 00:32:27,919

damn damn that guy knew right where to

837

00:32:32,149 --> 00:32:29,519

be

838

00:32:33,909 --> 00:32:32,159

uh it's like the old joke of looking for

839

00:32:36,389 --> 00:32:33,919

loose women at an abortion clinic

840

00:32:38,710 --> 00:32:36,399

because you just know that they get down

841

00:32:40,630 --> 00:32:38,720

it's like well this is the place to find

842

00:32:42,870 --> 00:32:40,640

your customers if you're trying to sell

843

00:32:44,070 --> 00:32:42,880

heroin because they're trying to get

844

00:32:45,430 --> 00:32:44,080

treatment here and you know they're

845

00:32:47,669 --> 00:32:45,440

being cut off

846

00:32:50,149 --> 00:32:47,679

man that that's really sad and i've

847

00:32:52,149 --> 00:32:50,159

known someone who had fibromyalgia so

848

00:32:53,909 --> 00:32:52,159

you're already dealing with pain they

849

00:32:55,669 --> 00:32:53,919

didn't have support from their parents

850

00:32:56,470 --> 00:32:55,679

they didn't have insurance they couldn't

851
00:32:58,630 --> 00:32:56,480
really

852
00:33:00,149 --> 00:32:58,640
work because of the pain and then they

853
00:33:03,029 --> 00:33:00,159
started getting heroin they're like look

854
00:33:05,430 --> 00:33:03,039
it's cheaper and it makes the pain stop

855
00:33:08,630 --> 00:33:05,440
yeah and it's just really sad to someone

856
00:33:11,269 --> 00:33:08,640
who's like sees heroin is so dirty and

857
00:33:13,110 --> 00:33:11,279
a bridge so far from their reality it's

858
00:33:15,269 --> 00:33:13,120
like well you don't wake up every day

859
00:33:16,870 --> 00:33:15,279
with pain so what do you know about it

860
00:33:17,909 --> 00:33:16,880
but well let me just say something about

861
00:33:20,070 --> 00:33:17,919
that though really quick because you

862
00:33:22,470 --> 00:33:20,080
make an important point like

863
00:33:25,110 --> 00:33:22,480

part of the way that

864

00:33:27,590 --> 00:33:25,120

addiction and pain both right it's kind

865

00:33:29,590 --> 00:33:27,600

of two sides of the same pill

866

00:33:31,909 --> 00:33:29,600

pain in this country has been

867

00:33:33,269 --> 00:33:31,919

stigmatized pain patients have been

868

00:33:35,269 --> 00:33:33,279

stigmatized

869

00:33:37,350 --> 00:33:35,279

um people with addiction have been

870

00:33:40,549 --> 00:33:37,360

stigmatized people with addiction can't

871

00:33:42,310 --> 00:33:40,559

get adequate care or support once

872

00:33:44,710 --> 00:33:42,320

they're identified as having an

873

00:33:47,110 --> 00:33:44,720

addiction they can't get the right types

874

00:33:48,870 --> 00:33:47,120

of supports to keep them alive and

875

00:33:51,430 --> 00:33:48,880

people with pain suffer because they

876

00:33:54,389 --> 00:33:51,440

can't get adequate types of medication

877

00:33:55,830 --> 00:33:54,399

or therapeutics right so like both the

878

00:33:58,230 --> 00:33:55,840

pain community

879

00:34:00,630 --> 00:33:58,240

and the addiction community have been

880

00:34:03,110 --> 00:34:00,640

harmed tremendously

881

00:34:05,430 --> 00:34:03,120

by pharmaceutical companies and by the

882

00:34:07,830 --> 00:34:05,440

government and we've been traditionally

883

00:34:10,149 --> 00:34:07,840

pitted up against each other which has

884

00:34:12,069 --> 00:34:10,159

been to the benefit of the government

885

00:34:13,909 --> 00:34:12,079

and the benefit to these pharmaceutical

886

00:34:15,829 --> 00:34:13,919

companies when in fact we should be

887

00:34:17,750 --> 00:34:15,839

working together right

888

00:34:18,869 --> 00:34:17,760

we've seen it play out time and again

889

00:34:21,190 --> 00:34:18,879

you can see

890

00:34:23,750 --> 00:34:21,200

in the history of the overdose crisis

891

00:34:25,430 --> 00:34:23,760

like the amount of money that these

892

00:34:29,430 --> 00:34:25,440

pharmaceutical companies put in to

893

00:34:31,909 --> 00:34:29,440

create these fake pain advocacy groups

894

00:34:33,510 --> 00:34:31,919

right to fight the addiction

895

00:34:35,669 --> 00:34:33,520

community and say we're nothing but

896

00:34:36,710 --> 00:34:35,679

dirty addicts right and it's all our

897

00:34:38,629 --> 00:34:36,720

fault

898

00:34:41,030 --> 00:34:38,639

and they weren't even real groups like

899

00:34:43,349 --> 00:34:41,040

these were like shadow or this was like

900

00:34:46,310 --> 00:34:43,359

dark money i mean these are tactics that

901
00:34:47,270 --> 00:34:46,320
pharmaceutical companies still use today

902
00:34:52,389 --> 00:34:47,280
yeah

903
00:34:54,869 --> 00:34:52,399
highlighting and let's get into that

904
00:34:57,190 --> 00:34:54,879
purdue trial talk to us about all the

905
00:34:59,829 --> 00:34:57,200
lawsuits that were coming at the company

906
00:35:01,750 --> 00:34:59,839
and the sacklers and what changed when

907
00:35:04,470 --> 00:35:01,760
they filed for bankruptcy

908
00:35:07,030 --> 00:35:04,480
wow so this is where i get like really

909
00:35:09,030 --> 00:35:07,040
wound up and thanks for letting me take

910
00:35:11,750 --> 00:35:09,040
a little bit time to talk about it so

911
00:35:14,550 --> 00:35:11,760
i had you know set my target on purdue

912
00:35:16,870 --> 00:35:14,560
pharma early on in my recovery

913
00:35:18,150 --> 00:35:16,880

i was one of the biggest thorns and

914

00:35:20,230 --> 00:35:18,160

continued to be one of the biggest

915

00:35:23,190 --> 00:35:20,240

thorns not just in the company but in

916

00:35:26,069 --> 00:35:23,200

the sackler side for quite some time

917

00:35:28,150 --> 00:35:26,079

i started to connect the dots between

918

00:35:29,670 --> 00:35:28,160

the sackler family and purdue and the

919

00:35:30,870 --> 00:35:29,680

deaths of my friends and what i

920

00:35:34,630 --> 00:35:30,880

experienced

921

00:35:38,230 --> 00:35:34,640

sometime around 2016 and in 2018

922

00:35:39,910 --> 00:35:38,240

i had the largest protest direct action

923

00:35:43,109 --> 00:35:39,920

in front of purdue pharma headquarters

924

00:35:44,550 --> 00:35:43,119

with 500 people really demanding

925

00:35:45,670 --> 00:35:44,560

accountability

926
00:35:49,030 --> 00:35:45,680
and

927
00:35:51,750 --> 00:35:49,040
we had always thought that

928
00:35:53,829 --> 00:35:51,760
maybe our day would come maybe our day

929
00:35:56,069 --> 00:35:53,839
would come when the sacklers would face

930
00:35:58,470 --> 00:35:56,079
the same sort of justice system that

931
00:36:00,870 --> 00:35:58,480
everyday americans have to face which is

932
00:36:03,109 --> 00:36:00,880
before a jury of their peers

933
00:36:04,950 --> 00:36:03,119
and they got wrapped up in something

934
00:36:07,349 --> 00:36:04,960
called the multi-district litigation

935
00:36:10,230 --> 00:36:07,359
which is still being negotiated

936
00:36:11,510 --> 00:36:10,240
in ohio and judge pollster's courtroom

937
00:36:13,430 --> 00:36:11,520
which is where

938
00:36:15,910 --> 00:36:13,440

all of the pharmaceutical manufacturers

939

00:36:18,790 --> 00:36:15,920

and distributors right so like mckesson

940

00:36:19,990 --> 00:36:18,800

and johnson and johnson amerisource

941

00:36:21,910 --> 00:36:20,000

virgin and

942

00:36:24,230 --> 00:36:21,920

cvs caremark pharmacy and some of the

943

00:36:27,750 --> 00:36:24,240

other pharmacies and purdue pharma we're

944

00:36:29,990 --> 00:36:27,760

all lumped together in this one massive

945

00:36:32,310 --> 00:36:30,000

test trial in ohio to see if they could

946

00:36:33,349 --> 00:36:32,320

come up with some sort of settlement

947

00:36:34,630 --> 00:36:33,359

and

948

00:36:36,630 --> 00:36:34,640

purdue

949

00:36:38,390 --> 00:36:36,640

was being sued

950

00:36:41,670 --> 00:36:38,400

by so many different states i mean there

951
00:36:44,230 --> 00:36:41,680
were 2700 different lawsuits between

952
00:36:46,069 --> 00:36:44,240
states and municipalities and cities

953
00:36:48,710 --> 00:36:46,079
against purdue pharma

954
00:36:51,430 --> 00:36:48,720
and they decided in september of 2019

955
00:36:53,109 --> 00:36:51,440
they were going to pull the rip cord

956
00:36:54,470 --> 00:36:53,119
to get out of the multi-district

957
00:36:57,030 --> 00:36:54,480
litigation

958
00:36:59,430 --> 00:36:57,040
because of how many lawsuits against

959
00:37:01,589 --> 00:36:59,440
them they had against them their

960
00:37:03,510 --> 00:37:01,599
liability was so high

961
00:37:05,589 --> 00:37:03,520
um that they

962
00:37:06,470 --> 00:37:05,599
figured they would claim bankruptcy

963
00:37:08,069 --> 00:37:06,480

right

964

00:37:10,390 --> 00:37:08,079

but it wasn't just about claiming

965

00:37:13,030 --> 00:37:10,400

bankruptcy for them by claiming

966

00:37:15,910 --> 00:37:13,040

bankruptcy they were able to remove

967

00:37:17,510 --> 00:37:15,920

themselves from the ohio test trial

968

00:37:18,950 --> 00:37:17,520

and some of the other bellwether trials

969

00:37:21,589 --> 00:37:18,960

across the nation

970

00:37:23,670 --> 00:37:21,599

and essentially pick their judge and

971

00:37:26,950 --> 00:37:23,680

pause all of the litigation pause the

972

00:37:29,349 --> 00:37:26,960

2700 lawsuits so they went overnight in

973

00:37:32,230 --> 00:37:29,359

september of 2019 by filing for chapter

974

00:37:34,069 --> 00:37:32,240

11 from pollster's courtroom it was a

975

00:37:35,349 --> 00:37:34,079

pretty stern judge to be able to pick

976

00:37:37,829 --> 00:37:35,359

their venue

977

00:37:41,030 --> 00:37:37,839

which was white plains new york for them

978

00:37:42,870 --> 00:37:41,040

under bankruptcy judge robert d drain

979

00:37:44,230 --> 00:37:42,880

who is incredibly debtor friendly and

980

00:37:46,230 --> 00:37:44,240

when i say debtor friendly that's kind

981

00:37:47,750 --> 00:37:46,240

of a bankruptcy term that i've learned

982

00:37:50,230 --> 00:37:47,760

the last couple years which means

983

00:37:51,990 --> 00:37:50,240

company friendly right like he is known

984

00:37:53,910 --> 00:37:52,000

that if there's you know an issue where

985

00:37:56,470 --> 00:37:53,920

there's a tie between creditors and the

986

00:37:58,710 --> 00:37:56,480

company that the company usually wins

987

00:38:00,510 --> 00:37:58,720

but judge drain was also very well known

988

00:38:03,349 --> 00:38:00,520

for issuing something called a

989

00:38:06,150 --> 00:38:03,359

non-consensual third party release

990

00:38:07,750 --> 00:38:06,160

which in layman's terms meant if the

991

00:38:09,670 --> 00:38:07,760

sackler family

992

00:38:11,589 --> 00:38:09,680

wrote a big check

993

00:38:14,310 --> 00:38:11,599

to cover creditors

994

00:38:17,270 --> 00:38:14,320

assets the money owed to creditors

995

00:38:21,270 --> 00:38:17,280

that they could receive civil immunity

996

00:38:23,190 --> 00:38:21,280

from any sort of litigation related to

997

00:38:25,670 --> 00:38:23,200

the opioid crisis

998

00:38:28,069 --> 00:38:25,680

it's the biggest scam in the world right

999

00:38:30,069 --> 00:38:28,079

so if you get caught with a crime if i

1000

00:38:32,310 --> 00:38:30,079

get caught with a crime

1001
00:38:33,990 --> 00:38:32,320
we don't have the option of saying huh

1002
00:38:35,829 --> 00:38:34,000
let me look around the map and figure

1003
00:38:38,950 --> 00:38:35,839
out what judge

1004
00:38:41,829 --> 00:38:38,960
would be best suited to my needs and

1005
00:38:44,710 --> 00:38:41,839
what judge is most likely to be able to

1006
00:38:46,550 --> 00:38:44,720
like get me immunity so i'm never sued

1007
00:38:48,310 --> 00:38:46,560
for anything ever again related to the

1008
00:38:51,910 --> 00:38:48,320
crimes that i've committed that doesn't

1009
00:38:54,630 --> 00:38:51,920
exist but in bankruptcy court it does

1010
00:38:57,030 --> 00:38:54,640
and that's what put purdue pharma

1011
00:38:59,349 --> 00:38:57,040
and essentially the sacklers into

1012
00:39:01,190 --> 00:38:59,359
chapter 11 in white plains new york

1013
00:39:03,430 --> 00:39:01,200

under judge dream

1014

00:39:05,190 --> 00:39:03,440

the big caveat here though is that the

1015

00:39:08,550 --> 00:39:05,200

sacklers never had to file for

1016

00:39:10,630 --> 00:39:08,560

bankruptcy themselves so they were able

1017

00:39:13,670 --> 00:39:10,640

and continue to be able

1018

00:39:14,390 --> 00:39:13,680

to benefit from the bankruptcy system

1019

00:39:16,150 --> 00:39:14,400

by

1020

00:39:18,550 --> 00:39:16,160

writing a check

1021

00:39:21,190 --> 00:39:18,560

under the plan that was developed

1022

00:39:23,670 --> 00:39:21,200

without having to forfeit all of their

1023

00:39:26,230 --> 00:39:23,680

money right there's models out there

1024

00:39:28,230 --> 00:39:26,240

that show that the sacklers if these

1025

00:39:29,990 --> 00:39:28,240

non-consensual releases are actually

1026

00:39:31,349 --> 00:39:30,000

upheld in the second circuit which is

1027

00:39:32,550 --> 00:39:31,359

where it's at right now because they

1028

00:39:34,870 --> 00:39:32,560

were just

1029

00:39:37,030 --> 00:39:34,880

recently vacated by a district judge

1030

00:39:38,550 --> 00:39:37,040

that they could actually be richer than

1031

00:39:40,790 --> 00:39:38,560

they are before

1032

00:39:42,470 --> 00:39:40,800

assuming their investments in a healthy

1033

00:39:45,190 --> 00:39:42,480

interest rate it's all very

1034

00:39:48,310 --> 00:39:45,200

complex stuff that i detail in unsettled

1035

00:39:50,950 --> 00:39:48,320

in great length but in a nutshell it is

1036

00:39:53,990 --> 00:39:50,960

billionaire justice in this country it

1037

00:39:56,069 --> 00:39:54,000

is complete billionaire justice now it's

1038

00:39:58,550 --> 00:39:56,079

important for the audience to know that

1039

00:40:00,310 --> 00:39:58,560

this case is actually playing out in

1040

00:40:02,310 --> 00:40:00,320

real time right now

1041

00:40:05,030 --> 00:40:02,320

there was a plan a bankruptcy plan

1042

00:40:07,109 --> 00:40:05,040

approved by judge drain in september

1043

00:40:09,510 --> 00:40:07,119

just this past september

1044

00:40:10,950 --> 00:40:09,520

it was overturned on appeal by a

1045

00:40:13,109 --> 00:40:10,960

district court

1046

00:40:15,109 --> 00:40:13,119

by judge colleen mcMahon in the southern

1047

00:40:16,870 --> 00:40:15,119

district of new york district court and

1048

00:40:17,589 --> 00:40:16,880

now it's headed to the second circuit

1049

00:40:19,750 --> 00:40:17,599

for

1050

00:40:21,750 --> 00:40:19,760

hopefully what will be a final decision

1051
00:40:24,870 --> 00:40:21,760
so it's been back and forth constantly

1052
00:40:26,790 --> 00:40:24,880
but i got involved in this and really

1053
00:40:29,270 --> 00:40:26,800
started to peek under the hood

1054
00:40:32,150 --> 00:40:29,280
when i heard they filed for bankruptcy

1055
00:40:34,230 --> 00:40:32,160
in september of 2019 and i had been

1056
00:40:36,630 --> 00:40:34,240
talking to some lawyers about potential

1057
00:40:39,430 --> 00:40:36,640
class action lawsuits against the

1058
00:40:40,870 --> 00:40:39,440
sacklers prior to that and one of them

1059
00:40:42,870 --> 00:40:40,880
reached out to me and said you know hey

1060
00:40:44,710 --> 00:40:42,880
ryan now that they're in bankruptcy

1061
00:40:46,230 --> 00:40:44,720
court this changes the game completely

1062
00:40:48,870 --> 00:40:46,240
it kind of moves

1063
00:40:51,510 --> 00:40:48,880

the whole process if you're a sports fan

1064

00:40:53,109 --> 00:40:51,520

from a basketball court where you know

1065

00:40:56,150 --> 00:40:53,119

attorneys general are really good at

1066

00:40:58,470 --> 00:40:56,160

playing legal games onto an ice hockey

1067

00:41:01,109 --> 00:40:58,480

rink which is in bankruptcy court this

1068

00:41:04,230 --> 00:41:01,119

completely different set of rules

1069

00:41:06,470 --> 00:41:04,240

that most lawyers aren't aware of and

1070

00:41:08,710 --> 00:41:06,480

there's a committee a very powerful

1071

00:41:09,670 --> 00:41:08,720

committee called the unsecured creditors

1072

00:41:10,950 --> 00:41:09,680

committee

1073

00:41:13,349 --> 00:41:10,960

that's appointed by the department of

1074

00:41:15,030 --> 00:41:13,359

justice it'll be a nine-member committee

1075

00:41:17,270 --> 00:41:15,040

that you can apply to be a part of and

1076
00:41:18,150 --> 00:41:17,280
what that committee serves as is pretty

1077
00:41:20,790 --> 00:41:18,160
much

1078
00:41:23,109 --> 00:41:20,800
the watchdog of the process but it also

1079
00:41:25,190 --> 00:41:23,119
has the ability to negotiate the

1080
00:41:27,349 --> 00:41:25,200
settlement on behalf of 600 000

1081
00:41:29,270 --> 00:41:27,359
creditors it has the ability to get in

1082
00:41:31,750 --> 00:41:29,280
to the sackler's financials to see if

1083
00:41:32,950 --> 00:41:31,760
the settlement spared has the ability to

1084
00:41:35,109 --> 00:41:32,960
conduct

1085
00:41:36,950 --> 00:41:35,119
depositions it has the ability to take

1086
00:41:39,190 --> 00:41:36,960
discovery which means i'd be able to see

1087
00:41:41,430 --> 00:41:39,200
sackler emails and see a lot of the

1088
00:41:43,270 --> 00:41:41,440

things that we thought we knew

1089

00:41:45,349 --> 00:41:43,280

and maybe get some proof i thought it

1090

00:41:48,630 --> 00:41:45,359

would be cathartic for me to go through

1091

00:41:50,950 --> 00:41:48,640

this process to represent families and

1092

00:41:53,670 --> 00:41:50,960

victims who have been harmed so much and

1093

00:41:55,430 --> 00:41:53,680

to be there to use my voice right i was

1094

00:41:57,589 --> 00:41:55,440

actually hopeful in the beginning

1095

00:41:59,910 --> 00:41:57,599

because i envisioned this process where

1096

00:42:01,349 --> 00:41:59,920

it was all these state attorney generals

1097

00:42:03,750 --> 00:42:01,359

and the united states department of

1098

00:42:06,710 --> 00:42:03,760

justice and the victims and the

1099

00:42:08,870 --> 00:42:06,720

companies and like all of us on one side

1100

00:42:10,950 --> 00:42:08,880

of the table and then the sacklers in

1101

00:42:12,550 --> 00:42:10,960

purdue on the other side of the table

1102

00:42:15,910 --> 00:42:12,560

and that at the end of the day justice

1103

00:42:18,710 --> 00:42:15,920

would be done right that purdue would be

1104

00:42:21,109 --> 00:42:18,720

reduced to nothing but this crappy

1105

00:42:23,030 --> 00:42:21,119

company with no money and they'd have to

1106

00:42:25,910 --> 00:42:23,040

give the dollars to the victims and that

1107

00:42:26,870 --> 00:42:25,920

the sacklers would see some real justice

1108

00:42:29,030 --> 00:42:26,880

and

1109

00:42:31,430 --> 00:42:29,040

maybe just maybe

1110

00:42:33,589 --> 00:42:31,440

we could do some good here and boy was i

1111

00:42:36,870 --> 00:42:33,599

mistaken

1112

00:42:37,990 --> 00:42:36,880

the whole process was set up to benefit

1113

00:42:40,309 --> 00:42:38,000

everybody

1114

00:42:41,430 --> 00:42:40,319

but the people who were harmed the most

1115

00:42:43,510 --> 00:42:41,440

right

1116

00:42:45,910 --> 00:42:43,520

victims were sidelined every step of the

1117

00:42:46,870 --> 00:42:45,920

way and two years ago if you would have

1118

00:42:49,430 --> 00:42:46,880

asked me

1119

00:42:51,270 --> 00:42:49,440

that one of my larger banners that i'd

1120

00:42:52,550 --> 00:42:51,280

be carrying coming out of this process

1121

00:42:55,589 --> 00:42:52,560

would be

1122

00:42:56,950 --> 00:42:55,599

massive bankruptcy reform

1123

00:42:59,589 --> 00:42:56,960

i would have said you're crazy i know

1124

00:43:01,109 --> 00:42:59,599

nothing about bankruptcy the bankruptcy

1125

00:43:03,670 --> 00:43:01,119

system in this country is one of the

1126

00:43:05,109 --> 00:43:03,680

most corrupt rigged

1127

00:43:08,550 --> 00:43:05,119

systems i've

1128

00:43:12,870 --> 00:43:10,630

wow and there's a lot of competition for

1129

00:43:15,430 --> 00:43:12,880

the most corrupt system in this country

1130

00:43:17,589 --> 00:43:15,440

but i wanted to make sure that we fit

1131

00:43:19,109 --> 00:43:17,599

into the first hour this thing we talked

1132

00:43:21,030 --> 00:43:19,119

about a couple weeks ago where you had

1133

00:43:23,670 --> 00:43:21,040

mentioned that you found another villain

1134

00:43:26,230 --> 00:43:23,680

in this story in the state attorney

1135

00:43:28,470 --> 00:43:26,240

generals and that it's not really a very

1136

00:43:30,870 --> 00:43:28,480

popular narrative well tell us a little

1137

00:43:32,710 --> 00:43:30,880

bit more about this and and why it isn't

1138

00:43:35,190 --> 00:43:32,720

popular to talk about or why people

1139

00:43:37,510 --> 00:43:35,200

don't like to look at this

1140

00:43:39,589 --> 00:43:37,520

greg it's probably like one of the most

1141

00:43:41,030 --> 00:43:39,599

unpopular narratives that i've put out

1142

00:43:43,270 --> 00:43:41,040

there

1143

00:43:45,510 --> 00:43:43,280

and it hasn't gotten much coverage in

1144

00:43:47,990 --> 00:43:45,520

mainstream media because folks don't

1145

00:43:50,630 --> 00:43:48,000

like to hear it and it's really angered

1146

00:43:52,550 --> 00:43:50,640

me because i i write it's actually i

1147

00:43:56,150 --> 00:43:52,560

believe the state attorneys general in

1148

00:43:58,710 --> 00:43:56,160

unsettled are as much of a villain as

1149

00:44:01,190 --> 00:43:58,720

some of these pharmaceutical companies

1150

00:44:02,870 --> 00:44:01,200

not only because they were complicit

1151
00:44:04,309 --> 00:44:02,880
but really what they do behind closed

1152
00:44:05,190 --> 00:44:04,319
doors so

1153
00:44:07,030 --> 00:44:05,200
when

1154
00:44:09,990 --> 00:44:07,040
i again

1155
00:44:13,030 --> 00:44:10,000
came to this process with this thought

1156
00:44:14,230 --> 00:44:13,040
that victims should be first

1157
00:44:16,630 --> 00:44:14,240
always

1158
00:44:19,510 --> 00:44:16,640
and when i say victims i mean the actual

1159
00:44:23,270 --> 00:44:19,520
individuals who were harmed that the

1160
00:44:26,150 --> 00:44:23,280
individuals who lost their loved ones

1161
00:44:28,790 --> 00:44:26,160
or folks like me and my mom right my

1162
00:44:30,150 --> 00:44:28,800
mother who spent in our family who spent

1163
00:44:32,550 --> 00:44:30,160

close to probably a half a million

1164

00:44:35,190 --> 00:44:32,560

dollars in money we didn't have on

1165

00:44:37,589 --> 00:44:35,200

treatment right because of oxycontin

1166

00:44:39,510 --> 00:44:37,599

credit card bills mortgages that are

1167

00:44:40,390 --> 00:44:39,520

still being paid off today

1168

00:44:43,270 --> 00:44:40,400

and

1169

00:44:46,470 --> 00:44:43,280

the state attorney's general

1170

00:44:48,230 --> 00:44:46,480

and they did this behind closed doors

1171

00:44:49,589 --> 00:44:48,240

first they would go out into the public

1172

00:44:51,750 --> 00:44:49,599

and they would grab the mic and say

1173

00:44:53,670 --> 00:44:51,760

we're doing this for the victims we're

1174

00:44:55,589 --> 00:44:53,680

taking all the money we're going to make

1175

00:44:56,470 --> 00:44:55,599

sure that the sacklers get what's coming

1176

00:44:58,150 --> 00:44:56,480

to them

1177

00:45:00,550 --> 00:44:58,160

we're doing this for the families we're

1178

00:45:03,829 --> 00:45:00,560

doing this for accountability and behind

1179

00:45:07,910 --> 00:45:03,839

closed doors though in negotiations

1180

00:45:10,309 --> 00:45:07,920

they did every single thing possible to

1181

00:45:11,349 --> 00:45:10,319

keep money away from victims that they

1182

00:45:14,390 --> 00:45:11,359

could

1183

00:45:16,470 --> 00:45:14,400

i sat in mediation sessions during the

1184

00:45:19,030 --> 00:45:16,480

settlement negotiations

1185

00:45:20,950 --> 00:45:19,040

where the deputy attorney general for

1186

00:45:22,630 --> 00:45:20,960

the state of new york who was leading

1187

00:45:24,870 --> 00:45:22,640

those negotiations and i'll name his

1188

00:45:27,589 --> 00:45:24,880

name david nachman

1189

00:45:29,990 --> 00:45:27,599

actually said to us that victims

1190

00:45:32,230 --> 00:45:30,000

deserved nothing

1191

00:45:34,150 --> 00:45:32,240

we deserve nothing because we did this

1192

00:45:36,069 --> 00:45:34,160

to ourselves

1193

00:45:39,030 --> 00:45:36,079

and that the state

1194

00:45:41,030 --> 00:45:39,040

bore all the burden of the overdose

1195

00:45:42,790 --> 00:45:41,040

crisis because they're the ones that had

1196

00:45:44,550 --> 00:45:42,800

to pay for the police they're the ones

1197

00:45:46,150 --> 00:45:44,560

that had to pay for the health care

1198

00:45:49,190 --> 00:45:46,160

they're the ones who had to pay for the

1199

00:45:52,069 --> 00:45:49,200

societal costs that purdue brought on to

1200

00:45:54,230 --> 00:45:52,079

these communities and completely

1201
00:45:56,550 --> 00:45:54,240
just sidestepped the death and

1202
00:45:58,309 --> 00:45:56,560
destruction to our personal lives

1203
00:46:00,390 --> 00:45:58,319
and they had a

1204
00:46:03,990 --> 00:46:00,400
argument an actual theory

1205
00:46:06,710 --> 00:46:04,000
that victims should get zero dollars

1206
00:46:09,349 --> 00:46:06,720
because we did this to ourselves

1207
00:46:11,589 --> 00:46:09,359
now the outcome of the settlement as it

1208
00:46:13,589 --> 00:46:11,599
stands right now and it is on appeal

1209
00:46:15,589 --> 00:46:13,599
right in the second circuit

1210
00:46:17,430 --> 00:46:15,599
you know it's about a 10 billion dollar

1211
00:46:19,109 --> 00:46:17,440
plan and that includes four and a half

1212
00:46:21,990 --> 00:46:19,119
billion dollars from the sacklers and

1213
00:46:25,670 --> 00:46:22,000

their substantial contribution

1214

00:46:27,030 --> 00:46:25,680

97 and a half percent of that settlement

1215

00:46:28,950 --> 00:46:27,040

as it stands

1216

00:46:31,270 --> 00:46:28,960

goes to the government

1217

00:46:32,950 --> 00:46:31,280

and goes to corporations

1218

00:46:34,230 --> 00:46:32,960

seven and a half percent of the

1219

00:46:36,870 --> 00:46:34,240

settlement

1220

00:46:39,190 --> 00:46:36,880

goes to individual victims

1221

00:46:41,270 --> 00:46:39,200

the payouts for individual victims range

1222

00:46:43,349 --> 00:46:41,280

from 3 500

1223

00:46:45,990 --> 00:46:43,359

to 48 000

1224

00:46:47,270 --> 00:46:46,000

max if you can prove

1225

00:46:49,990 --> 00:46:47,280

you lost

1226
00:46:53,030 --> 00:46:50,000
someone close to you from an overdose

1227
00:46:54,470 --> 00:46:53,040
directly caused by a purdue product for

1228
00:46:57,510 --> 00:46:54,480
comparison

1229
00:46:59,270 --> 00:46:57,520
there was a car manufacturer bankruptcy

1230
00:47:00,309 --> 00:46:59,280
a few years ago

1231
00:47:03,190 --> 00:47:00,319
where

1232
00:47:05,990 --> 00:47:03,200
creditors who were in people who were

1233
00:47:08,550 --> 00:47:06,000
harmd by the seat belts in these cars

1234
00:47:11,030 --> 00:47:08,560
who filed claims in the bankruptcy who

1235
00:47:14,309 --> 00:47:11,040
had as much of a bruise on their left

1236
00:47:16,950 --> 00:47:14,319
arm from these faulty seat belts

1237
00:47:18,470 --> 00:47:16,960
received more money than a mother will

1238
00:47:19,750 --> 00:47:18,480

who lost her

1239

00:47:23,030 --> 00:47:19,760

child

1240

00:47:25,750 --> 00:47:23,040

to an overdose by a purdue product

1241

00:47:28,390 --> 00:47:25,760

it's a scam it's a crime

1242

00:47:30,309 --> 00:47:28,400

these attorneys general

1243

00:47:31,910 --> 00:47:30,319

i believe at their heart

1244

00:47:34,390 --> 00:47:31,920

you know we've got to think like who is

1245

00:47:36,870 --> 00:47:34,400

their clients right their clients the

1246

00:47:38,390 --> 00:47:36,880

state their clients the state treasury

1247

00:47:39,829 --> 00:47:38,400

when you hear an attorney general go out

1248

00:47:42,230 --> 00:47:39,839

there and say they're doing this for the

1249

00:47:43,510 --> 00:47:42,240

victims they're lying they're full of

1250

00:47:45,109 --> 00:47:43,520

crap

1251

00:47:46,950 --> 00:47:45,119

i have plenty of evidence that i've

1252

00:47:49,589 --> 00:47:46,960

documented within the book that shows

1253

00:47:52,549 --> 00:47:49,599

that they are completely full of crap

1254

00:47:54,630 --> 00:47:52,559

the abatement dollars you know we try to

1255

00:47:56,150 --> 00:47:54,640

get involved in conversations and when

1256

00:47:58,230 --> 00:47:56,160

you talk about abatement that's

1257

00:47:59,829 --> 00:47:58,240

preventing future harm how are they

1258

00:48:01,190 --> 00:47:59,839

going to use these dollars are they

1259

00:48:03,670 --> 00:48:01,200

going to go to community-based

1260

00:48:06,390 --> 00:48:03,680

organizations are they going to go to

1261

00:48:07,910 --> 00:48:06,400

provide evidence-based recovery supports

1262

00:48:10,790 --> 00:48:07,920

that we know that work are they going to

1263

00:48:12,870 --> 00:48:10,800

go to support harm reduction

1264

00:48:14,549 --> 00:48:12,880

and we were told left and right like we

1265

00:48:16,309 --> 00:48:14,559

have no business in those discussions

1266

00:48:17,510 --> 00:48:16,319

the state's going to decide how to spend

1267

00:48:19,829 --> 00:48:17,520

this money and we're just going to have

1268

00:48:22,069 --> 00:48:19,839

to deal with it

1269

00:48:24,150 --> 00:48:22,079

angering because that myth is still

1270

00:48:26,150 --> 00:48:24,160

perpetrated today by some of these

1271

00:48:28,150 --> 00:48:26,160

attorneys general you see some of them

1272

00:48:30,870 --> 00:48:28,160

on television talking about it and it's

1273

00:48:33,589 --> 00:48:30,880

enough to make my blood boil i just had

1274

00:48:35,349 --> 00:48:33,599

an action last week against the attorney

1275

00:48:37,349 --> 00:48:35,359

general of connecticut

1276

00:48:38,470 --> 00:48:37,359

william tong because he keeps saying

1277

00:48:40,470 --> 00:48:38,480

we're going to keep fighting the

1278

00:48:42,309 --> 00:48:40,480

sacklers for more money

1279

00:48:44,710 --> 00:48:42,319

and we're going to hold them accountable

1280

00:48:47,430 --> 00:48:44,720

and what we really want are criminal

1281

00:48:48,549 --> 00:48:47,440

charges right so like all of the victims

1282

00:48:51,030 --> 00:48:48,559

in this case

1283

00:48:53,990 --> 00:48:51,040

and victims who have been harmed by the

1284

00:48:55,750 --> 00:48:54,000

sacklers we want criminal charges we

1285

00:48:58,710 --> 00:48:55,760

want the united states department of

1286

00:49:01,030 --> 00:48:58,720

justice or at least one of these 50

1287

00:49:03,670 --> 00:49:01,040

attorney generals who claim such

1288

00:49:05,910 --> 00:49:03,680

egregious crimes by peru pharma to put

1289

00:49:08,230 --> 00:49:05,920

their money where their mouth is and

1290

00:49:10,870 --> 00:49:08,240

make the sacklers sit for a grand jury

1291

00:49:14,790 --> 00:49:10,880

indict them criminally investigate them

1292

00:49:16,470 --> 00:49:14,800

no you know what not one single state in

1293

00:49:19,190 --> 00:49:16,480

this country

1294

00:49:21,349 --> 00:49:19,200

has filed a criminal charge against any

1295

00:49:24,230 --> 00:49:21,359

member of the sackler family because

1296

00:49:26,710 --> 00:49:24,240

this is all about money this is not

1297

00:49:28,309 --> 00:49:26,720

about real justice and so when we hear

1298

00:49:30,309 --> 00:49:28,319

an attorney general talking about

1299

00:49:32,230 --> 00:49:30,319

holding the sackler family accountable

1300

00:49:34,150 --> 00:49:32,240

that is not what they're doing all they

1301

00:49:36,950 --> 00:49:34,160

are doing is trying to get more money

1302

00:49:39,190 --> 00:49:36,960

but money for who money for their state

1303

00:49:41,990 --> 00:49:39,200

because they have pushed us aside they

1304

00:49:44,470 --> 00:49:42,000

have chewed us up they have spit us out

1305

00:49:47,510 --> 00:49:44,480

and they have discarded the victims when

1306

00:49:49,430 --> 00:49:47,520

every single one of their claims

1307

00:49:51,430 --> 00:49:49,440

wouldn't even exist

1308

00:49:53,990 --> 00:49:51,440

without the victim's claims every

1309

00:49:56,630 --> 00:49:54,000

government claim every insurance company

1310

00:49:58,950 --> 00:49:56,640

claim every corporation claim in this

1311

00:50:01,270 --> 00:49:58,960

bankruptcy wouldn't exist if it wasn't

1312

00:50:03,430 --> 00:50:01,280

for the death and the destruction

1313

00:50:05,670 --> 00:50:03,440

of families and individuals who have

1314

00:50:07,990 --> 00:50:05,680

carried the burden of purdue's crimes

1315

00:50:11,349 --> 00:50:08,000

for far too long and the injustice just

1316

00:50:14,150 --> 00:50:11,359

continues and mainstream media will not

1317

00:50:15,910 --> 00:50:14,160

give that subject the air time they do

1318

00:50:18,150 --> 00:50:15,920

not want to talk about it it is one of

1319

00:50:19,670 --> 00:50:18,160

the most frustrating narratives coming

1320

00:50:23,670 --> 00:50:19,680

out of writing unsettled and

1321

00:50:26,150 --> 00:50:23,680

participating in this process

1322

00:50:28,549 --> 00:50:26,160

man well i'm glad you broke that down it

1323

00:50:31,430 --> 00:50:28,559

is important for people to know these

1324

00:50:33,030 --> 00:50:31,440

state ags they're just trying to capture

1325

00:50:34,549 --> 00:50:33,040

that money put it in the budget there's

1326

00:50:36,390 --> 00:50:34,559

no guarantee it'll go where it's

1327

00:50:38,150 --> 00:50:36,400

supposed to go at all they kind of can

1328

00:50:40,069 --> 00:50:38,160

just do whatever they want with it i've

1329

00:50:41,430 --> 00:50:40,079

heard you talk about that before yeah i

1330

00:50:42,870 --> 00:50:41,440

mean and they say they're gonna do the

1331

00:50:44,870 --> 00:50:42,880

right thing with it they say they're

1332

00:50:47,270 --> 00:50:44,880

gonna spend it on abatement

1333

00:50:48,870 --> 00:50:47,280

but there's no real mechanism

1334

00:50:50,870 --> 00:50:48,880

that guarantees

1335

00:50:52,390 --> 00:50:50,880

how for them to spend the dollars i mean

1336

00:50:53,910 --> 00:50:52,400

they've been so broad they're like yes

1337

00:50:55,510 --> 00:50:53,920

we'll spend it on prevention yes we'll

1338

00:50:57,990 --> 00:50:55,520

spend it on treatment yes we'll spend it

1339

00:50:59,589 --> 00:50:58,000

on law enforcement but like 99 of it

1340

00:51:01,430 --> 00:50:59,599

could go to law enforcement right on

1341

00:51:03,589 --> 00:51:01,440

like body cams and stuff and they can

1342

00:51:04,710 --> 00:51:03,599

claim it for the opioid crisis part of

1343

00:51:07,270 --> 00:51:04,720

the problem here is the lack of

1344

00:51:09,270 --> 00:51:07,280

transparency like good luck trying to go

1345

00:51:11,430 --> 00:51:09,280

track down how a state's spending their

1346

00:51:13,990 --> 00:51:11,440

abatement dollars i've tried it like if

1347

00:51:15,910 --> 00:51:14,000

you don't have two phds and like a

1348

00:51:16,710 --> 00:51:15,920

reading room of five people who can go

1349

00:51:18,710 --> 00:51:16,720

through

1350

00:51:21,109 --> 00:51:18,720

tens of thousands of pages of documents

1351

00:51:22,309 --> 00:51:21,119

and understand government coding you're

1352

00:51:24,549 --> 00:51:22,319

not going to be able to figure out how

1353

00:51:26,710 --> 00:51:24,559

these dollars are spent there's no real

1354

00:51:28,230 --> 00:51:26,720

easy way to break it down you know we

1355

00:51:30,950 --> 00:51:28,240

saw this happen with the tobacco

1356

00:51:34,309 --> 00:51:30,960

settlements right some time ago it's my

1357

00:51:35,589 --> 00:51:34,319

firm belief that the opioid abatement

1358

00:51:38,390 --> 00:51:35,599

dollars is going to be more of a

1359

00:51:40,870 --> 00:51:38,400

catastrophic failure than how the

1360

00:51:42,870 --> 00:51:40,880

tobacco dollars went down and not to

1361

00:51:44,150 --> 00:51:42,880

mention greg like one of the things i i

1362

00:51:46,069 --> 00:51:44,160

haven't really

1363

00:51:47,829 --> 00:51:46,079

been able to talk about are the lawyers

1364

00:51:49,750 --> 00:51:47,839

in this yes like at the end of the day

1365

00:51:50,549 --> 00:51:49,760

the only ones getting rich are the

1366

00:51:52,630 --> 00:51:50,559

lawyers

1367

00:51:55,030 --> 00:51:52,640

i didn't realize that going into the

1368

00:51:56,710 --> 00:51:55,040

process i have a whole chapter about it

1369

00:51:59,910 --> 00:51:56,720

and unsettled

1370

00:52:02,069 --> 00:51:59,920

under 1 000 lawyers in the purdue form

1371

00:52:04,470 --> 00:52:02,079

of bankruptcy will collectively take

1372

00:52:08,150 --> 00:52:04,480

home after contingency fees and

1373

00:52:10,309 --> 00:52:08,160

professional fees over 1.3 billion

1374

00:52:12,309 --> 00:52:10,319

dollars this includes contingency

1375

00:52:14,150 --> 00:52:12,319

lawyers that work for the states this

1376
00:52:15,589 --> 00:52:14,160
includes contingency lawyers that work

1377
00:52:18,470 --> 00:52:15,599
and professional lawyers that are

1378
00:52:20,710 --> 00:52:18,480
fee-based hourly lawyers that work for

1379
00:52:21,910 --> 00:52:20,720
purdue and that work for the creditors

1380
00:52:23,270 --> 00:52:21,920
committee and that work for different

1381
00:52:27,030 --> 00:52:23,280
creditor groups

1382
00:52:29,829 --> 00:52:27,040
under a thousand over 1.3 billion

1383
00:52:34,150 --> 00:52:29,839
dollars to the billionaire millionaire

1384
00:52:36,309 --> 00:52:34,160
class out of this bankruptcy yet 138

1385
00:52:38,790 --> 00:52:36,319
000 victims

1386
00:52:41,270 --> 00:52:38,800
will have to share in 750 million

1387
00:52:43,349 --> 00:52:41,280
dollars now tell me the system isn't set

1388
00:52:46,069 --> 00:52:43,359

up for us to get screwed under those

1389

00:52:48,630 --> 00:52:46,079

calculations oh yes i'm glad you made

1390

00:52:51,030 --> 00:52:48,640

the point about the lawyers it's just a

1391

00:52:52,950 --> 00:52:51,040

whole big show victims get the shaft and

1392

00:52:54,790 --> 00:52:52,960

the criminals just get to cut a check

1393

00:52:57,190 --> 00:52:54,800

and i've also heard you say that the way

1394

00:52:59,349 --> 00:52:57,200

the settlement is structured

1395

00:53:01,829 --> 00:52:59,359

is so to the sackler's benefit they

1396

00:53:03,510 --> 00:53:01,839

might actually make more money over this

1397

00:53:05,990 --> 00:53:03,520

time is that right

1398

00:53:07,430 --> 00:53:06,000

yes that's absolutely correct

1399

00:53:10,069 --> 00:53:07,440

right now

1400

00:53:12,549 --> 00:53:10,079

even if this deal goes through and the

1401

00:53:15,510 --> 00:53:12,559

appellate court holds it up

1402

00:53:17,829 --> 00:53:15,520

they will contribute 4.5 billion dollars

1403

00:53:19,750 --> 00:53:17,839

over 10 years and chunks couple hundred

1404

00:53:20,790 --> 00:53:19,760

million dollars each year

1405

00:53:22,790 --> 00:53:20,800

and

1406

00:53:25,109 --> 00:53:22,800

the estimates right now are there worth

1407

00:53:27,190 --> 00:53:25,119

about 11 you know 10 to 11 billion

1408

00:53:31,030 --> 00:53:27,200

dollars as a family

1409

00:53:33,030 --> 00:53:31,040

and at the end of 10 years with just the

1410

00:53:33,750 --> 00:53:33,040

dollars that they have in investments

1411

00:53:37,750 --> 00:53:33,760

and

1412

00:53:39,829 --> 00:53:37,760

rate on those investments

1413

00:53:43,430 --> 00:53:39,839

their worth would go up to 16 billion

1414

00:53:44,950 --> 00:53:43,440

dollars which means after paying back

1415

00:53:47,109 --> 00:53:44,960

the four and a half billion dollar

1416

00:53:48,710 --> 00:53:47,119

settlement they may net a billion to two

1417

00:53:50,390 --> 00:53:48,720

billion dollars if they never worked

1418

00:53:51,910 --> 00:53:50,400

another day in their life

1419

00:53:54,230 --> 00:53:51,920

i mean it's insane

1420

00:53:56,710 --> 00:53:54,240

yeah it really is man

1421

00:53:59,030 --> 00:53:56,720

and so as we're kind of coming to the

1422

00:54:01,510 --> 00:53:59,040

end of the line if we know addicts who

1423

00:54:03,430 --> 00:54:01,520

are suffering with exactly these kinds

1424

00:54:05,510 --> 00:54:03,440

of issues and we don't know what to do

1425

00:54:07,910 --> 00:54:05,520

how would you advise us to help the

1426

00:54:09,750 --> 00:54:07,920

right way because in my experience

1427

00:54:12,069 --> 00:54:09,760

they don't want to listen there's a lot

1428

00:54:13,990 --> 00:54:12,079

of denial and hostility when you try to

1429

00:54:17,109 --> 00:54:14,000

broach the topic but you can see they're

1430

00:54:18,549 --> 00:54:17,119

on a road to ruin so what do we do

1431

00:54:21,670 --> 00:54:18,559

oh

1432

00:54:22,950 --> 00:54:21,680

one of my favorite questions greg

1433

00:54:25,190 --> 00:54:22,960

you know

1434

00:54:28,309 --> 00:54:25,200

with people who are struggling from

1435

00:54:32,230 --> 00:54:28,319

addiction i would just say

1436

00:54:33,589 --> 00:54:32,240

coerced help and coerced treatment will

1437

00:54:35,430 --> 00:54:33,599

never work

1438

00:54:37,510 --> 00:54:35,440

okay

1439

00:54:39,430 --> 00:54:37,520

if they're in your family if it's

1440

00:54:41,030 --> 00:54:39,440

someone in your family it is important

1441

00:54:43,430 --> 00:54:41,040

to have boundaries

1442

00:54:45,349 --> 00:54:43,440

with them

1443

00:54:47,190 --> 00:54:45,359

because it can be devastating to you and

1444

00:54:50,069 --> 00:54:47,200

it can be devastating to those around

1445

00:54:52,390 --> 00:54:50,079

you but it is important to always

1446

00:54:54,390 --> 00:54:52,400

if it's a loved one to love them and to

1447

00:54:56,150 --> 00:54:54,400

listen to them you know i

1448

00:54:57,349 --> 00:54:56,160

was that guy

1449

00:54:59,589 --> 00:54:57,359

that

1450

00:55:00,710 --> 00:54:59,599

people told my mother never to take my

1451
00:55:02,710 --> 00:55:00,720
phone call

1452
00:55:04,390 --> 00:55:02,720
that they would find me dead in a ditch

1453
00:55:07,589 --> 00:55:04,400
somewhere

1454
00:55:10,150 --> 00:55:07,599
if she helped me or was too nice to me

1455
00:55:12,230 --> 00:55:10,160
that i was just gonna steal from her

1456
00:55:14,390 --> 00:55:12,240
and stuff like that and honestly i

1457
00:55:16,230 --> 00:55:14,400
didn't want help most of the time i

1458
00:55:17,990 --> 00:55:16,240
wanted to keep using i didn't know any

1459
00:55:21,109 --> 00:55:18,000
other way my brain was completely

1460
00:55:23,430 --> 00:55:21,119
hijacked but there comes a point

1461
00:55:26,309 --> 00:55:23,440
and there came a point with me where i

1462
00:55:27,430 --> 00:55:26,319
did need help and my mom answered

1463
00:55:29,829 --> 00:55:27,440

my phone

1464

00:55:31,349 --> 00:55:29,839

and someday she would just listen to me

1465

00:55:32,789 --> 00:55:31,359

you know and she would encourage me to

1466

00:55:34,549 --> 00:55:32,799

get help

1467

00:55:37,829 --> 00:55:34,559

she wouldn't force me but she encouraged

1468

00:55:39,670 --> 00:55:37,839

me and if you have someone that you know

1469

00:55:41,829 --> 00:55:39,680

more importantly is if you think they

1470

00:55:43,990 --> 00:55:41,839

are struggling

1471

00:55:46,230 --> 00:55:44,000

ask them if they're okay

1472

00:55:47,030 --> 00:55:46,240

ask them if they would like to get some

1473

00:55:48,710 --> 00:55:47,040

help

1474

00:55:50,470 --> 00:55:48,720

you know be open to having a

1475

00:55:52,470 --> 00:55:50,480

conversation with them

1476

00:55:54,390 --> 00:55:52,480

and they may say no

1477

00:55:56,549 --> 00:55:54,400

but have healthy boundaries with them

1478

00:55:57,829 --> 00:55:56,559

but healthy boundaries means not just

1479

00:56:00,390 --> 00:55:57,839

shutting them out of your life

1480

00:56:03,270 --> 00:56:00,400

completely because the next step may be

1481

00:56:06,230 --> 00:56:03,280

they end up dead and

1482

00:56:07,990 --> 00:56:06,240

i think for a lot of us who go through

1483

00:56:09,510 --> 00:56:08,000

severe substance use disorder and

1484

00:56:11,670 --> 00:56:09,520

addiction issues

1485

00:56:13,190 --> 00:56:11,680

beyond the drug what we're all really

1486

00:56:15,430 --> 00:56:13,200

trying to

1487

00:56:17,589 --> 00:56:15,440

grasp a hold to is something that we're

1488

00:56:19,109 --> 00:56:17,599

missing in our human lives right

1489

00:56:21,190 --> 00:56:19,119

something that we're missing deep down

1490

00:56:23,750 --> 00:56:21,200

inside and for a lot of us it's a lot of

1491

00:56:25,430 --> 00:56:23,760

trauma that may have existed for quite

1492

00:56:27,349 --> 00:56:25,440

some time

1493

00:56:29,109 --> 00:56:27,359

it can be very hard

1494

00:56:30,950 --> 00:56:29,119

to love a loved one

1495

00:56:33,670 --> 00:56:30,960

who's going through this particularly if

1496

00:56:35,750 --> 00:56:33,680

they've harmed you somehow

1497

00:56:37,430 --> 00:56:35,760

not knowing everybody's unique

1498

00:56:39,109 --> 00:56:37,440

circumstances

1499

00:56:41,510 --> 00:56:39,119

have some healthy boundaries but don't

1500

00:56:43,910 --> 00:56:41,520

shut them out of your life and there are

1501
00:56:46,630 --> 00:56:43,920
resources available out there right like

1502
00:56:48,230 --> 00:56:46,640
if someone's on medicaid has insurance

1503
00:56:49,910 --> 00:56:48,240
doesn't have insurance

1504
00:56:51,190 --> 00:56:49,920
the federal government has a treatment

1505
00:56:54,069 --> 00:56:51,200
locator

1506
00:56:56,710 --> 00:56:54,079
called findtreatment.gov

1507
00:56:58,549 --> 00:56:56,720
folks can reach out to me on my website

1508
00:57:01,430 --> 00:56:58,559
you know i'm always happy to have just a

1509
00:57:03,190 --> 00:57:01,440
conversation with someone i don't refer

1510
00:57:05,190 --> 00:57:03,200
anywhere or anything like that but i'm

1511
00:57:07,430 --> 00:57:05,200
happy to offer my lived experience

1512
00:57:09,030 --> 00:57:07,440
there's a great model called recovery

1513
00:57:11,190 --> 00:57:09,040

community organizations they're

1514

00:57:12,630 --> 00:57:11,200

non-profits that exist in many towns

1515

00:57:14,549 --> 00:57:12,640

across the country

1516

00:57:16,870 --> 00:57:14,559

called rcos where they offer peer

1517

00:57:18,789 --> 00:57:16,880

recovery support services

1518

00:57:21,109 --> 00:57:18,799

where it's a peer with lived experience

1519

00:57:22,630 --> 00:57:21,119

such as you know someone like me

1520

00:57:24,789 --> 00:57:22,640

who's been through this

1521

00:57:26,870 --> 00:57:24,799

who can help that loved one kind of

1522

00:57:28,630 --> 00:57:26,880

navigate what their options are and kind

1523

00:57:29,589 --> 00:57:28,640

of try to take that burden off the

1524

00:57:31,670 --> 00:57:29,599

family

1525

00:57:33,829 --> 00:57:31,680

it's also incredibly important that if

1526

00:57:35,510 --> 00:57:33,839

you're a family member

1527

00:57:37,990 --> 00:57:35,520

that has a loved one struggling that you

1528

00:57:39,910 --> 00:57:38,000

get help too you know because it affects

1529

00:57:41,750 --> 00:57:39,920

everybody there are resources for

1530

00:57:44,069 --> 00:57:41,760

families out there and it is just as

1531

00:57:46,309 --> 00:57:44,079

important for families to talk to a peer

1532

00:57:49,109 --> 00:57:46,319

specialist as it is for the person who's

1533

00:57:51,030 --> 00:57:49,119

struggling because it has an entire

1534

00:57:53,030 --> 00:57:51,040

impact and ripple effect

1535

00:57:55,990 --> 00:57:53,040

both in active addiction and even in

1536

00:57:57,349 --> 00:57:56,000

recovery with the family dynamics

1537

00:57:59,510 --> 00:57:57,359

right on

1538

00:58:02,710 --> 00:57:59,520

yes i also wanted to mention you blogged

1539

00:58:05,910 --> 00:58:02,720

about the mobilize recovery event the

1540

00:58:08,230 --> 00:58:05,920

third annual conference for recovery

1541

00:58:10,309 --> 00:58:08,240

advocates and uh they have a broader

1542

00:58:12,870 --> 00:58:10,319

vision for recovery and i know you have

1543

00:58:14,630 --> 00:58:12,880

the non-profit facing addiction and you

1544

00:58:16,630 --> 00:58:14,640

work with the not facing addiction it's

1545

00:58:18,230 --> 00:58:16,640

uh the nonprofit's the voices project

1546

00:58:20,390 --> 00:58:18,240

it's called the voices project right on

1547

00:58:23,030 --> 00:58:20,400

and then there's recovery advocacy

1548

00:58:25,829 --> 00:58:23,040

project yep the terms and words get a

1549

00:58:27,829 --> 00:58:25,839

little um redundant and confusing but in

1550

00:58:29,750 --> 00:58:27,839

terms of the organizations that you

1551
00:58:31,670 --> 00:58:29,760
endorse that you're involved with and

1552
00:58:33,910 --> 00:58:31,680
their approaches to these things that

1553
00:58:36,470 --> 00:58:33,920
you think are doing it the right way

1554
00:58:38,870 --> 00:58:36,480
what should we leave people with listen

1555
00:58:41,670 --> 00:58:38,880
i take a little different approach on

1556
00:58:43,990 --> 00:58:41,680
this i believe that we know what works

1557
00:58:46,069 --> 00:58:44,000
we know what we need to do i set out

1558
00:58:48,150 --> 00:58:46,079
that agenda earlier to you that's just

1559
00:58:50,150 --> 00:58:48,160
kind of a peak behind the curtain of all

1560
00:58:53,190 --> 00:58:50,160
the things we need to be looking at what

1561
00:58:55,990 --> 00:58:53,200
we're missing is a vocal

1562
00:58:58,630 --> 00:58:56,000
you know active community

1563
00:59:00,630 --> 00:58:58,640

that's holding policy makers accountable

1564

00:59:02,230 --> 00:59:00,640

and an effective constituency of

1565

00:59:04,069 --> 00:59:02,240

consequence because i believe our

1566

00:59:05,829 --> 00:59:04,079

elected officials need to start

1567

00:59:07,990 --> 00:59:05,839

answering some really hard questions as

1568

00:59:09,750 --> 00:59:08,000

to how we got here and why things aren't

1569

00:59:12,789 --> 00:59:09,760

getting better when we know what to do

1570

00:59:14,549 --> 00:59:12,799

so our entire model at mobilize recovery

1571

00:59:16,390 --> 00:59:14,559

at the voices project

1572

00:59:18,710 --> 00:59:16,400

and recovery advocacy project is about

1573

00:59:20,630 --> 00:59:18,720

building people with lived experience

1574

00:59:23,030 --> 00:59:20,640

family members people impacted by

1575

00:59:25,510 --> 00:59:23,040

addiction people in recovery you know

1576

00:59:28,230 --> 00:59:25,520

giving them the skills to organize their

1577

00:59:30,950 --> 00:59:28,240

communities locally for new policies but

1578

00:59:32,950 --> 00:59:30,960

also to kind of call bs on a lot of

1579

00:59:35,190 --> 00:59:32,960

these legislators and members of

1580

00:59:37,910 --> 00:59:35,200

congress and governors and folks in

1581

00:59:39,829 --> 00:59:37,920

powerful decision-making authorities who

1582

00:59:41,829 --> 00:59:39,839

say they care about ending the overdose

1583

00:59:43,270 --> 00:59:41,839

crisis but aren't really doing much to

1584

00:59:45,109 --> 00:59:43,280

do it so

1585

00:59:47,670 --> 00:59:45,119

i believe we need a little bit more of a

1586

00:59:50,150 --> 00:59:47,680

robust civic engagement model if we're

1587

00:59:52,309 --> 00:59:50,160

ever to really get more action similar

1588

00:59:54,870 --> 00:59:52,319

to what we saw with act up during the

1589

00:59:57,190 --> 00:59:54,880

aids crisis and other healthcare issues

1590

00:59:58,950 --> 00:59:57,200

in this country

1591

01:00:01,030 --> 00:59:58,960

yeah i've heard there are three

1592

01:00:03,349 --> 01:00:01,040

pharmaceutical lobbyists for every

1593

01:00:05,190 --> 01:00:03,359

member of congress and of course they

1594

01:00:06,710 --> 01:00:05,200

will just keep doing whatever they're

1595

01:00:09,349 --> 01:00:06,720

doing to make that money and they'll

1596

01:00:11,430 --> 01:00:09,359

sweep all the dirty stuff under the rug

1597

01:00:14,390 --> 01:00:11,440

as long as they can so the pressure is

1598

01:00:16,789 --> 01:00:14,400

very important as you say absolutely and

1599

01:00:18,950 --> 01:00:16,799

your website is ryanhampton.com you got

1600

01:00:21,270 --> 01:00:18,960

the blog you got other resources there

1601
01:00:22,470 --> 01:00:21,280
for people so that's probably important

1602
01:00:24,549 --> 01:00:22,480
and uh

1603
01:00:26,950 --> 01:00:24,559
man just thanks for doing the work you

1604
01:00:30,150 --> 01:00:26,960
do and for talking to me today it can't

1605
01:00:32,069 --> 01:00:30,160
be easy to have to work in the realm of

1606
01:00:33,750 --> 01:00:32,079
all this after you dealt with it

1607
01:00:35,589 --> 01:00:33,760
yourself you constantly are being

1608
01:00:37,430 --> 01:00:35,599
reminded of it so

1609
01:00:39,430 --> 01:00:37,440
i imagine that's very difficult but

1610
01:00:41,030 --> 01:00:39,440
you're doing amazing work in the world

1611
01:00:46,470 --> 01:00:41,040
and that's a beautiful thing and take

1612
01:00:51,270 --> 01:00:48,710
and boom goes the dynamite people

1613
01:00:53,270 --> 01:00:51,280

beating the drum of an issue we all know

1614

01:00:55,510 --> 01:00:53,280

is there but thc has never really

1615

01:00:57,430 --> 01:00:55,520

dedicated an episode to it and it's

1616

01:00:59,109 --> 01:00:57,440

probably long overdue

1617

01:01:03,109 --> 01:00:59,119

i mean just listen to those statistics

1618

01:01:05,910 --> 01:01:03,119

again 400 000 have died since 1999

1619

01:01:07,589 --> 01:01:05,920

a hundred thousand in the last 12 months

1620

01:01:10,069 --> 01:01:07,599

for the first time

1621

01:01:13,190 --> 01:01:10,079

even that ratio seems weird i bet it's a

1622

01:01:14,549 --> 01:01:13,200

lot more than 400 000 since 1999 if a

1623

01:01:16,390 --> 01:01:14,559

hundred thousand have died in the last

1624

01:01:18,710 --> 01:01:16,400

12 months but i'm just the messenger

1625

01:01:20,789 --> 01:01:18,720

reading statistics

1626
01:01:22,630 --> 01:01:20,799
one in three american households

1627
01:01:25,510 --> 01:01:22,640
affected in some way

1628
01:01:27,990 --> 01:01:25,520
and from april 2020 to april 2021

1629
01:01:31,270 --> 01:01:28,000
fentanyl claimed the lives of 40 000

1630
01:01:33,109 --> 01:01:31,280
americans aged 18 to 45 to make it the

1631
01:01:34,069 --> 01:01:33,119
leading cause of death for that age

1632
01:01:36,150 --> 01:01:34,079
group

1633
01:01:40,870 --> 01:01:36,160
and to put that number in perspective

1634
01:01:45,030 --> 01:01:40,880
car accidents 22 000 suicide 21 000

1635
01:01:47,430 --> 01:01:45,040
covid 21 000 and cancer 17 000. so you

1636
01:01:49,589 --> 01:01:47,440
could basically put car accidents and

1637
01:01:52,470 --> 01:01:49,599
covet together and you'd get the number

1638
01:01:55,270 --> 01:01:52,480

of deaths from fentanyl alone and that's

1639

01:01:57,109 --> 01:01:55,280

not even the topic of the day

1640

01:01:59,270 --> 01:01:57,119

it's messed up this is an issue where

1641

01:02:00,789 --> 01:01:59,280

there's a lot of judgment and an

1642

01:02:02,150 --> 01:02:00,799

assumption that it could never happen to

1643

01:02:03,990 --> 01:02:02,160

you

1644

01:02:05,670 --> 01:02:04,000

kind of like factory workers who lose

1645

01:02:07,829 --> 01:02:05,680

their job i've heard a lot of people say

1646

01:02:11,190 --> 01:02:07,839

well you shouldn't depend on one factory

1647

01:02:12,950 --> 01:02:11,200

to make your living or to prop up a town

1648

01:02:14,710 --> 01:02:12,960

and that's easy to say when you didn't

1649

01:02:16,950 --> 01:02:14,720

grow up in detroit

1650

01:02:19,190 --> 01:02:16,960

and this is similar in that if you don't

1651

01:02:21,029 --> 01:02:19,200

live with pain if you don't have a car

1652

01:02:23,190 --> 01:02:21,039

accident that breaks a dozen of your

1653

01:02:25,109 --> 01:02:23,200

bones it's easy to judge people who get

1654

01:02:25,910 --> 01:02:25,119

caught up in this and just look down on

1655

01:02:27,829 --> 01:02:25,920

them

1656

01:02:29,750 --> 01:02:27,839

but in so many areas of life

1657

01:02:32,309 --> 01:02:29,760

corporations have figured out how to

1658

01:02:34,309 --> 01:02:32,319

hijack systems of the body

1659

01:02:36,390 --> 01:02:34,319

look at aspartame and sugar and

1660

01:02:38,630 --> 01:02:36,400

processed foods in general

1661

01:02:41,109 --> 01:02:38,640

i guess we can judge the obese too and

1662

01:02:42,870 --> 01:02:41,119

say well stop eating hostess cupcakes

1663

01:02:45,910 --> 01:02:42,880

and cheetos

1664

01:02:48,150 --> 01:02:45,920

and that's true but we should also throw

1665

01:02:49,589 --> 01:02:48,160

equal shade at the creators of these

1666

01:02:51,910 --> 01:02:49,599

things

1667

01:02:53,990 --> 01:02:51,920

because why should every aspect of life

1668

01:02:57,430 --> 01:02:54,000

end up being a battle between our

1669

01:02:59,270 --> 01:02:57,440

willpower and our biological circuitry

1670

01:03:01,029 --> 01:02:59,280

shouldn't there be some responsibility

1671

01:03:03,750 --> 01:03:01,039

for the makers of manipulative and

1672

01:03:05,750 --> 01:03:03,760

addicting products i say so

1673

01:03:08,150 --> 01:03:05,760

i watched a food science documentary

1674

01:03:09,670 --> 01:03:08,160

once and they asked leaders in the field

1675

01:03:12,390 --> 01:03:09,680

what they thought was the crowning

1676
01:03:13,670 --> 01:03:12,400
achievement and they said the cheeto

1677
01:03:15,029 --> 01:03:13,680
puff

1678
01:03:17,029 --> 01:03:15,039
which stuck with me because it was so

1679
01:03:19,270 --> 01:03:17,039
surprising but it's because nothing in

1680
01:03:21,349 --> 01:03:19,280
it is real and they engineered it to

1681
01:03:23,589 --> 01:03:21,359
have an attractive color

1682
01:03:26,069 --> 01:03:23,599
to kind of melt in your mouth in a

1683
01:03:28,309 --> 01:03:26,079
satisfying way and to leave the cheeto

1684
01:03:29,589 --> 01:03:28,319
dust on your fingers tempting you to eat

1685
01:03:31,990 --> 01:03:29,599
more

1686
01:03:33,990 --> 01:03:32,000
all of these things have a little effect

1687
01:03:36,390 --> 01:03:34,000
that builds up into

1688
01:03:38,950 --> 01:03:36,400

people not being able to stop

1689

01:03:41,109 --> 01:03:38,960

the cheeto i mean it's mundane and yet

1690

01:03:43,190 --> 01:03:41,119

pretty insidious and that's basically

1691

01:03:47,430 --> 01:03:43,200

every food product

1692

01:03:49,190 --> 01:03:47,440

plus video games social media cigarettes

1693

01:03:51,829 --> 01:03:49,200

everywhere you look there's a witch

1694

01:03:53,589 --> 01:03:51,839

offering you a poison apple and big

1695

01:03:55,270 --> 01:03:53,599

pharma and opioids are probably the

1696

01:03:57,430 --> 01:03:55,280

scariest one

1697

01:03:59,750 --> 01:03:57,440

so i thank ryan for doing this and being

1698

01:04:02,630 --> 01:03:59,760

able to talk so eloquently from a

1699

01:04:04,710 --> 01:04:02,640

personal and professional perspective

1700

01:04:07,109 --> 01:04:04,720

i like him a lot and i appreciate his

1701

01:04:08,470 --> 01:04:07,119

story and how he turned it around

1702

01:04:10,470 --> 01:04:08,480

and i know you guys are going to beat me

1703

01:04:13,589 --> 01:04:10,480

up if i don't say something about it but

1704

01:04:16,069 --> 01:04:13,599

yes he is still a bit optimistic about

1705

01:04:18,230 --> 01:04:16,079

intentions of government and big pharma

1706

01:04:19,750 --> 01:04:18,240

in areas that aren't the opioid crisis

1707

01:04:22,230 --> 01:04:19,760

specifically

1708

01:04:24,950 --> 01:04:22,240

and we all know i'm not as optimistic or

1709

01:04:26,789 --> 01:04:24,960

trusting in any of those other areas but

1710

01:04:28,789 --> 01:04:26,799

to each their own that wasn't even the

1711

01:04:30,950 --> 01:04:28,799

theme of this episode

1712

01:04:32,710 --> 01:04:30,960

i have to say ryan is a good sport

1713

01:04:35,109 --> 01:04:32,720

though because i made the decision that

1714

01:04:38,069 --> 01:04:35,119

we needed an opioid crisis episode and i

1715

01:04:40,230 --> 01:04:38,079

sent out a few emails to the top dogs

1716

01:04:41,670 --> 01:04:40,240

and not only did he get back to me first

1717

01:04:43,829 --> 01:04:41,680

but he also

1718

01:04:45,670 --> 01:04:43,839

does focus on the billionaire family at

1719

01:04:47,270 --> 01:04:45,680

the head of this thing which we value

1720

01:04:49,670 --> 01:04:47,280

quite a bit of course

1721

01:04:51,670 --> 01:04:49,680

but he also told me he listened to a few

1722

01:04:52,630 --> 01:04:51,680

episodes and was still willing to come

1723

01:04:54,309 --> 01:04:52,640

on

1724

01:04:56,549 --> 01:04:54,319

which i always think is a big deal

1725

01:04:58,309 --> 01:04:56,559

because who knows what those episodes

1726

01:05:00,630 --> 01:04:58,319

were and whatever it was that he

1727

01:05:02,789 --> 01:05:00,640

listened to but it didn't turn him off

1728

01:05:04,470 --> 01:05:02,799

at least not enough to reject my

1729

01:05:06,549 --> 01:05:04,480

interview request

1730

01:05:08,950 --> 01:05:06,559

and with it being such a serious and

1731

01:05:11,190 --> 01:05:08,960

personal issue i could see him seeing

1732

01:05:13,349 --> 01:05:11,200

our show as a little silly

1733

01:05:16,069 --> 01:05:13,359

oh the higher side chats wants to talk

1734

01:05:18,710 --> 01:05:16,079

about drug addiction

1735

01:05:21,109 --> 01:05:18,720

so kudos to him for trusting me to take

1736

01:05:22,630 --> 01:05:21,119

the issue seriously

1737

01:05:24,789 --> 01:05:22,640

i also thought he made a really good

1738

01:05:27,109 --> 01:05:24,799

point about nerfing the numbers a bit

1739

01:05:29,109 --> 01:05:27,119

for how bad this really is by putting

1740

01:05:31,349 --> 01:05:29,119

down a different cause of death like

1741

01:05:32,710 --> 01:05:31,359

heart failure or asphyxiation or

1742

01:05:34,470 --> 01:05:32,720

something that doesn't specifically

1743

01:05:36,069 --> 01:05:34,480

mention an overdose

1744

01:05:38,549 --> 01:05:36,079

and hey why wouldn't the medical

1745

01:05:40,789 --> 01:05:38,559

establishment work that way we've had

1746

01:05:43,109 --> 01:05:40,799

several guests break down how they pad

1747

01:05:45,430 --> 01:05:43,119

covid numbers as a component of this

1748

01:05:47,029 --> 01:05:45,440

full court press we're experiencing

1749

01:05:49,349 --> 01:05:47,039

and we're talking about two different

1750

01:05:50,789 --> 01:05:49,359

issues but within the same system with

1751

01:05:53,029 --> 01:05:50,799

different incentives and different

1752

01:05:54,549 --> 01:05:53,039

desires when it comes to perception

1753

01:05:57,270 --> 01:05:54,559

management

1754

01:05:59,670 --> 01:05:57,280

and i will admit i probably do drift

1755

01:06:01,750 --> 01:05:59,680

into being a bit cold towards those

1756

01:06:04,470 --> 01:06:01,760

struggling with addiction an example

1757

01:06:06,549 --> 01:06:04,480

would be jordan peterson i don't know if

1758

01:06:08,150 --> 01:06:06,559

it's straight up addiction but i learned

1759

01:06:09,990 --> 01:06:08,160

a lot from jordan peterson over the

1760

01:06:11,670 --> 01:06:10,000

years i found him to be a compelling

1761

01:06:14,150 --> 01:06:11,680

thoughtful speaker on a number of

1762

01:06:16,710 --> 01:06:14,160

subjects not everything of course

1763

01:06:18,789 --> 01:06:16,720

but when he started taking ssris and had

1764

01:06:20,710 --> 01:06:18,799

this downward spiral and his life

1765

01:06:22,789 --> 01:06:20,720

completely upended

1766

01:06:24,870 --> 01:06:22,799

i was just really disappointed to see

1767

01:06:27,109 --> 01:06:24,880

that because a clinical psychologist

1768

01:06:29,029 --> 01:06:27,119

who's kind of gone rogue should know to

1769

01:06:31,109 --> 01:06:29,039

avoid these drugs

1770

01:06:33,510 --> 01:06:31,119

and maybe a clinical psychologist has

1771

01:06:35,349 --> 01:06:33,520

blinders on for the solutions proposed

1772

01:06:37,190 --> 01:06:35,359

in their industry

1773

01:06:39,510 --> 01:06:37,200

but i found myself thinking if you

1774

01:06:42,069 --> 01:06:39,520

aren't smart enough to

1775

01:06:43,670 --> 01:06:42,079

avoid ssris do you really have anything

1776

01:06:45,109 --> 01:06:43,680

to teach me

1777

01:06:46,870 --> 01:06:45,119

i'm not saying it's right i'm saying

1778

01:06:48,630 --> 01:06:46,880

that's what i thought

1779

01:06:51,670 --> 01:06:48,640

because it's very clear to me you don't

1780

01:06:54,710 --> 01:06:51,680

[h__\h] with ssris or opioids

1781

01:06:56,710 --> 01:06:54,720

if you do well good luck to you

1782

01:06:59,270 --> 01:06:56,720

but i also have no idea what it's like

1783

01:07:01,190 --> 01:06:59,280

to have chronic pain i have no idea what

1784

01:07:03,589 --> 01:07:01,200

it's like to suffer the kind of life

1785

01:07:05,029 --> 01:07:03,599

events that send you spiraling into a

1786

01:07:07,910 --> 01:07:05,039

deep depression

1787

01:07:10,069 --> 01:07:07,920

so i try to check myself and remember

1788

01:07:12,150 --> 01:07:10,079

that it's easy to avoid these pills when

1789

01:07:13,589 --> 01:07:12,160

they're the solutions to problems you

1790

01:07:15,910 --> 01:07:13,599

don't have

1791

01:07:18,150 --> 01:07:15,920

i avoid chemotherapy too another

1792

01:07:20,069 --> 01:07:18,160

dangerous practice but i also don't have

1793

01:07:21,829 --> 01:07:20,079

cancer so there's nothing really to be

1794

01:07:23,270 --> 01:07:21,839

proud of there

1795

01:07:26,069 --> 01:07:23,280

when you have one of these serious

1796

01:07:27,829 --> 01:07:26,079

problems and the only experts allowed to

1797

01:07:29,589 --> 01:07:27,839

practice have whittled away and

1798

01:07:32,309 --> 01:07:29,599

suppressed alternatives and given you

1799

01:07:34,789 --> 01:07:32,319

one solitary solution that is extremely

1800

01:07:35,750 --> 01:07:34,799

risky for you and they get paid to offer

1801

01:07:39,829 --> 01:07:35,760

it

1802

01:07:42,549 --> 01:07:39,839

and we need to help those who have been

1803

01:07:44,670 --> 01:07:42,559

turned out by it and at one point

1804

01:07:47,349 --> 01:07:44,680

talking about the settlement ryan said

1805

01:07:49,270 --> 01:07:47,359

97.5 percent goes to governments and

1806

01:07:50,789 --> 01:07:49,280

corporations and seven percent goes to

1807

01:07:54,150 --> 01:07:50,799

victims

1808

01:07:56,630 --> 01:07:54,160

pretty sure he meant 92.5 percent and 7

1809

01:07:58,870 --> 01:07:56,640

because i know that the seven percent is

1810

01:08:01,510 --> 01:07:58,880

right from reading the book and i think

1811

01:08:04,630 --> 01:08:01,520

he said it correctly later but just to

1812

01:08:06,390 --> 01:08:04,640

address that possible confusion

1813

01:08:08,150 --> 01:08:06,400

those numbers are still insane and to

1814

01:08:11,109 --> 01:08:08,160

say that the lawyers made a billion it's

1815

01:08:13,190 --> 01:08:11,119

like what the hell and i know people

1816

01:08:14,870 --> 01:08:13,200

really don't want to have more covid

1817

01:08:17,430 --> 01:08:14,880

shows but that doesn't stop me from

1818

01:08:19,910 --> 01:08:17,440

trying to get a bit creative and in a

1819

01:08:22,229 --> 01:08:19,920

roundabout way make larger points about

1820

01:08:23,910 --> 01:08:22,239

why fda approval doesn't mean [h__\h] to me

1821

01:08:25,510 --> 01:08:23,920

and why companies like pfizer and

1822

01:08:27,189 --> 01:08:25,520

johnson and johnson

1823

01:08:28,950 --> 01:08:27,199

can't be trusted when they talk about

1824

01:08:30,709 --> 01:08:28,960

their products

1825

01:08:32,470 --> 01:08:30,719

even holistic medicine is hard to

1826

01:08:34,309 --> 01:08:32,480

navigate because for so much of it

1827

01:08:36,829 --> 01:08:34,319

you'll find negative articles that try

1828

01:08:39,749 --> 01:08:36,839

to repeatedly highlight a lack of fda

1829

01:08:41,590 --> 01:08:39,759

approval to make something sound scary

1830

01:08:43,189 --> 01:08:41,600

or extra risky

1831

01:08:45,430 --> 01:08:43,199

and sometimes it is

1832

01:08:47,829 --> 01:08:45,440

but sometimes it isn't

1833

01:08:49,669 --> 01:08:47,839

so i appreciate ryan's work and mission

1834

01:08:51,510 --> 01:08:49,679

i'm sure many of us listening are not

1835

01:08:53,669 --> 01:08:51,520

nearly as dedicated to anything

1836

01:08:54,870 --> 01:08:53,679

involving the public good so i salute

1837

01:08:56,630 --> 01:08:54,880

him for it

1838

01:08:58,950 --> 01:08:56,640

also i think i took a few lines from

1839

01:09:00,630 --> 01:08:58,960

ryan's bio in previous interviews that

1840

01:09:02,870 --> 01:09:00,640

had the incorrect names of his

1841

01:09:04,630 --> 01:09:02,880

non-profit and organizations that he's

1842

01:09:06,550 --> 01:09:04,640

been involved with or maybe it was just

1843

01:09:07,990 --> 01:09:06,560

an outdated one you know i hate to get

1844

01:09:10,229 --> 01:09:08,000

that stuff wrong

1845

01:09:12,870 --> 01:09:10,239

but the right stuff is the mobilize

1846

01:09:15,669 --> 01:09:12,880

recovery conference the voices project

1847

01:09:18,309 --> 01:09:15,679

that is his non-profit and recovery

1848

01:09:20,550 --> 01:09:18,319

advocacy project is another one that he

1849

01:09:21,749 --> 01:09:20,560

supports and is involved with

1850

01:09:24,229 --> 01:09:21,759

obviously

1851

01:09:27,349 --> 01:09:24,239

use his website as the portal to reach

1852

01:09:29,749 --> 01:09:27,359

these other things if you have the need

1853

01:09:31,749 --> 01:09:29,759

and i appreciate the solutions he offers

1854

01:09:34,550 --> 01:09:31,759

and i'm completely ignorant of what

1855

01:09:36,470 --> 01:09:34,560

these drugs feel like and what addiction

1856

01:09:38,309 --> 01:09:36,480

is like at that level

1857

01:09:40,309 --> 01:09:38,319

but i would probably push back on the

1858

01:09:42,470 --> 01:09:40,319

idea that we don't need to get rid of

1859

01:09:44,390 --> 01:09:42,480

these drugs entirely

1860

01:09:46,390 --> 01:09:44,400

i'm sure if we spent more time on that

1861

01:09:47,910 --> 01:09:46,400

ryan could present me with scenarios

1862

01:09:49,189 --> 01:09:47,920

that would lead me to see things

1863

01:09:51,430 --> 01:09:49,199

differently

1864

01:09:53,349 --> 01:09:51,440

but if i had chronic pain

1865

01:09:55,270 --> 01:09:53,359

i like to think that i would seek out

1866

01:09:57,510 --> 01:09:55,280

every and all alternative treatment

1867

01:10:00,550 --> 01:09:57,520

before i went to those pills shamans

1868

01:10:02,550 --> 01:10:00,560

dietary changes acupuncture exercise

1869

01:10:03,990 --> 01:10:02,560

bio-field tuning

1870

01:10:06,709 --> 01:10:04,000

we are conditioned to think these

1871

01:10:09,990 --> 01:10:06,719

so-called alternative options are silly

1872

01:10:11,590 --> 01:10:10,000

or they only work for low-level issues

1873

01:10:13,430 --> 01:10:11,600

but i've heard some transformative

1874

01:10:16,709 --> 01:10:13,440

things coming from people who work in

1875

01:10:18,390 --> 01:10:16,719

these areas and they don't use the pills

1876

01:10:20,790 --> 01:10:18,400

but life is about nuance and i

1877

01:10:23,350 --> 01:10:20,800

appreciate ryan's ability to say hey

1878

01:10:26,070 --> 01:10:23,360

this stuff turned my life upside down

1879

01:10:28,390 --> 01:10:26,080

the sackler family is evil

1880

01:10:30,709 --> 01:10:28,400

but let's not go scorched earth because

1881

01:10:32,470 --> 01:10:30,719

some people are able to get out of bed

1882

01:10:35,110 --> 01:10:32,480

because of this stuff

1883

01:10:36,870 --> 01:10:35,120

so difficult questions difficult answers

1884

01:10:39,189 --> 01:10:36,880

but i know people who have gone down

1885

01:10:41,669 --> 01:10:39,199

this dark path i receive emails from

1886

01:10:44,149 --> 01:10:41,679

listeners too that say thc helped them

1887

01:10:45,990 --> 01:10:44,159

through an addiction phase the first

1888

01:10:48,310 --> 01:10:46,000

time i heard that i was really surprised

1889

01:10:50,470 --> 01:10:48,320

but now i would say it comes up in

1890

01:10:52,390 --> 01:10:50,480

people's correspondence with me maybe a

1891

01:10:54,630 --> 01:10:52,400

dozen times a year

1892

01:10:56,550 --> 01:10:54,640

i wouldn't say anyone super close to me

1893

01:10:58,229 --> 01:10:56,560

has died from

1894

01:11:01,030 --> 01:10:58,239

this kind of stuff it's been on the

1895

01:11:02,870 --> 01:11:01,040

outside edges of my circle

1896

01:11:04,709 --> 01:11:02,880

but there was a dude named brian who i

1897

01:11:06,950 --> 01:11:04,719

really liked in high school i thought he

1898

01:11:09,030 --> 01:11:06,960

was a lot of fun i was definitely

1899

01:11:10,550 --> 01:11:09,040

jealous of his athletic abilities he was

1900

01:11:12,870 --> 01:11:10,560

charismatic

1901

01:11:15,189 --> 01:11:12,880

having not seen him since

1902

01:11:17,910 --> 01:11:15,199

maybe the high school reunion

1903

01:11:20,310 --> 01:11:17,920

i found out that he ended up

1904

01:11:23,270 --> 01:11:20,320

having some kind of injury getting on

1905

01:11:26,630 --> 01:11:23,280

opioids and he died alone

1906

01:11:29,189 --> 01:11:26,640

in the public restroom of the local park

1907

01:11:31,110 --> 01:11:29,199

back in arnold missouri and that kind of

1908

01:11:32,070 --> 01:11:31,120

stuck with me just because it's such a

1909

01:11:33,910 --> 01:11:32,080

sad

1910

01:11:37,830 --> 01:11:33,920

way to die

1911

01:11:42,870 --> 01:11:40,149

but after hearing ryan's personal story

1912

01:11:44,550 --> 01:11:42,880

the jump from pills to needles

1913

01:11:47,350 --> 01:11:44,560

i empathize

1914

01:11:49,590 --> 01:11:47,360

i always struggled to see how that jump

1915

01:11:51,350 --> 01:11:49,600

was made i never really had it explained

1916

01:11:52,709 --> 01:11:51,360

to me like that but now it seems pretty

1917

01:11:54,229 --> 01:11:52,719

obvious

1918

01:11:55,510 --> 01:11:54,239

even though it's still one hell of a

1919

01:11:56,870 --> 01:11:55,520

leap

1920

01:11:59,830 --> 01:11:56,880

i guess the lesson is there are

1921

01:12:03,350 --> 01:11:59,840

predators in the corner offices of big

1922

01:12:06,630 --> 01:12:03,360

skyrises as well as in the back alleys

1923

01:12:08,470 --> 01:12:06,640

and parking lots of treatment centers

1924

01:12:10,630 --> 01:12:08,480

anyway in the second hour for plus

1925

01:12:12,149 --> 01:12:10,640

people we got into other huge

1926

01:12:14,390 --> 01:12:12,159
settlements from pharmaceutical

1927

01:12:16,550 --> 01:12:14,400
companies culpable agencies and

1928

01:12:18,950 --> 01:12:16,560
co-conspirators and all this

1929

01:12:20,630 --> 01:12:18,960
the pr message control elements the

1930

01:12:22,870 --> 01:12:20,640
sacklers used something we see from

1931

01:12:24,390 --> 01:12:22,880
billionaire families all the time

1932

01:12:26,790 --> 01:12:24,400
this i thought was interesting but

1933

01:12:29,110 --> 01:12:26,800
hacking and corrupting ryan's internet

1934

01:12:30,950 --> 01:12:29,120
and email inbox

1935

01:12:33,110 --> 01:12:30,960
now i just started watching the show

1936

01:12:34,870 --> 01:12:33,120
goliath with billy bob thornton and

1937

01:12:36,950 --> 01:12:34,880
right in the pilot episode it shows a

1938

01:12:39,669 --> 01:12:36,960

good example of corporate intimidation

1939

01:12:41,669 --> 01:12:39,679

and surveillance techniques and ryan may

1940

01:12:43,430 --> 01:12:41,679

never really know

1941

01:12:46,229 --> 01:12:43,440

but i would speculate that they have the

1942

01:12:47,830 --> 01:12:46,239

power to do the things that he mentioned

1943

01:12:50,950 --> 01:12:47,840

we talked about who else was on that

1944

01:12:53,110 --> 01:12:50,960

committee and why cvs was there

1945

01:12:55,750 --> 01:12:53,120

ryan's right and wrong solutions for the

1946

01:12:57,990 --> 01:12:55,760

opioid crisis how big pharma profits

1947

01:13:00,070 --> 01:12:58,000

from the black market as well

1948

01:13:03,430 --> 01:13:00,080

another great show but the latest season

1949

01:13:05,270 --> 01:13:03,440

of ozark is all about this very nuts

1950

01:13:07,270 --> 01:13:05,280

succession was also mentioned and hey

1951

01:13:10,149 --> 01:13:07,280

you add in righteous gemstones and you

1952

01:13:11,590 --> 01:13:10,159

got all my favorite shows right there

1953

01:13:13,910 --> 01:13:11,600

but we also talked about ryan's

1954

01:13:15,910 --> 01:13:13,920

one-on-one meeting with david sackler

1955

01:13:18,390 --> 01:13:15,920

and the general sackler family

1956

01:13:20,149 --> 01:13:18,400

psychology all good stuff thanks to

1957

01:13:22,070 --> 01:13:20,159

those who support the show and hear it

1958

01:13:24,550 --> 01:13:22,080

in its entirety

1959

01:13:26,709 --> 01:13:24,560

in higher side news we did get an event

1960

01:13:28,709 --> 01:13:26,719

added to the meetup calendar for next

1961

01:13:32,470 --> 01:13:28,719

weekend it's going to be in louisville

1962

01:13:34,070 --> 01:13:32,480

kentucky at 10 20 craft brewery so

1963

01:13:36,070 --> 01:13:34,080

thanks for adding something so i didn't

1964

01:13:37,510 --> 01:13:36,080

seem like a fool in the wrap up with

1965

01:13:39,510 --> 01:13:37,520

nothing to say

1966

01:13:41,430 --> 01:13:39,520

but we did get some support tickets

1967

01:13:44,310 --> 01:13:41,440

about the meetups calendar so there is

1968

01:13:46,070 --> 01:13:44,320

some confusion that i should clear up

1969

01:13:48,229 --> 01:13:46,080

people tend to think that it's part of

1970

01:13:50,630 --> 01:13:48,239

the thc website that they just can't

1971

01:13:53,110 --> 01:13:50,640

find and it's not it's its own domain at

1972

01:13:54,870 --> 01:13:53,120

highersidemeetups.com

1973

01:13:57,030 --> 01:13:54,880

and i'll do a better job of building

1974

01:13:59,669 --> 01:13:57,040

that bridge but you should know it is

1975

01:14:02,070 --> 01:13:59,679

its own separate thing and plus members

1976

01:14:04,149 --> 01:14:02,080

have been confused because when they try

1977

01:14:06,390 --> 01:14:04,159

to log in with their plus account

1978

01:14:09,350 --> 01:14:06,400

credentials it doesn't work well that's

1979

01:14:11,189 --> 01:14:09,360

because it's a totally separate website

1980

01:14:13,030 --> 01:14:11,199

i didn't port over the plus member

1981

01:14:15,030 --> 01:14:13,040

database because i don't want to assume

1982

01:14:16,790 --> 01:14:15,040

that all plus members want to be in that

1983

01:14:18,550 --> 01:14:16,800

database or want to create events or

1984

01:14:19,830 --> 01:14:18,560

engage in this way it's just its own

1985

01:14:21,669 --> 01:14:19,840

separate thing

1986

01:14:24,709 --> 01:14:21,679

and plus members have to remember that

1987

01:14:28,070 --> 01:14:24,719

there are tens of thousands of non-plus

1988

01:14:29,910 --> 01:14:28,080

members listening to every show and i

1989

01:14:31,990 --> 01:14:29,920

know another site with another

1990

01:14:33,590 --> 01:14:32,000

registration process is annoying but

1991

01:14:35,830 --> 01:14:33,600

it's the only way it works we can't just

1992

01:14:40,390 --> 01:14:35,840

let anyone make events because it'd be

1993

01:14:41,990 --> 01:14:40,400

all spam and bots and untrusted sources

1994

01:14:44,149 --> 01:14:42,000

we want to make sure there's at least a

1995

01:14:46,229 --> 01:14:44,159

person and an email attached to every

1996

01:14:48,470 --> 01:14:46,239

event so that there's somebody running

1997

01:14:51,669 --> 01:14:48,480

point if the event needs to change or

1998

01:14:53,149 --> 01:14:51,679

more details need to be given etc etc so

1999

01:14:55,110 --> 01:14:53,159

to make an event you go to

2000

01:14:57,110 --> 01:14:55,120

highersidemeetups.com take a second to

2001

01:14:59,270 --> 01:14:57,120

make an account and then the calendar is

2002

01:15:00,229 --> 01:14:59,280

open to you to make events whenever you

2003

01:15:01,590 --> 01:15:00,239

want

2004

01:15:03,830 --> 01:15:01,600

i've mentioned this before but i'm going

2005

01:15:06,070 --> 01:15:03,840

to be road tripping with the family in

2006

01:15:08,790 --> 01:15:06,080

march and i would love to make

2007

01:15:11,669 --> 01:15:08,800

several stops between san diego and

2008

01:15:13,189 --> 01:15:11,679

chicago that are the meetups

2009

01:15:15,830 --> 01:15:13,199

it's nice to see that some of these

2010

01:15:18,070 --> 01:15:15,840

meetups are recurring now and i know

2011

01:15:20,390 --> 01:15:18,080

that there's good stable communities

2012

01:15:22,070 --> 01:15:20,400

forming in places so

2013

01:15:23,990 --> 01:15:22,080

those would be areas i'd want to hit and

2014

01:15:26,149 --> 01:15:24,000

there's one more month available to

2015

01:15:27,750 --> 01:15:26,159

start making that happen

2016

01:15:29,510 --> 01:15:27,760

but if you're going out for a few drinks

2017

01:15:31,350 --> 01:15:29,520

with buddies anyway put it on the

2018

01:15:33,669 --> 01:15:31,360

calendar and bring in a few more locals

2019

01:15:35,669 --> 01:15:33,679

that you'd probably enjoy meeting

2020

01:15:38,070 --> 01:15:35,679

but i guess in terms of news that's

2021

01:15:40,229 --> 01:15:38,080

really it and i guess no news is good

2022

01:15:41,669 --> 01:15:40,239

news as they say just stay in the course

2023

01:15:43,910 --> 01:15:41,679

and trying to bring you entertaining

2024

01:15:45,350 --> 01:15:43,920

informative off the radar important

2025

01:15:47,350 --> 01:15:45,360

episodes

2026

01:15:49,990 --> 01:15:47,360

i hope you're all doing well despite the

2027

01:15:52,550 --> 01:15:50,000

wider concerns out there but that's it

2028

01:15:54,709 --> 01:15:52,560

for me thank ryan if you appreciate his

2029

01:15:56,149 --> 01:15:54,719

time and work as much as i do i'm

2030

01:15:58,630 --> 01:15:56,159

getting out of here

2031

01:16:04,830 --> 01:15:58,640

your move opioid offers addiction

2032

01:16:10,310 --> 01:16:07,990

players the truth has been hidden from

2033

01:16:18,229 --> 01:16:14,149

didn't believe in myself

2034

01:16:24,470 --> 01:16:18,239

got lizard people on top of the world

2035

01:16:32,709 --> 01:16:28,070

believe it or not the truth is out there

2036

01:16:37,189 --> 01:16:32,719

for people who have the eyes to see

2037

01:16:41,030 --> 01:16:37,199

my favorite show makes me more aware

2038

01:16:44,570 --> 01:16:41,040

who could it be

2039

01:16:55,510 --> 01:16:44,580

the higher side chess thc

2040

01:17:03,750 --> 01:16:59,830

just watch the tv and obey

2041

01:17:06,630 --> 01:17:03,760

take some more pills when you're blue

2042

01:17:07,910 --> 01:17:06,640

or we'll break you out of the spell that

2043

01:17:14,149 --> 01:17:07,920

you're in

2044

01:17:22,310 --> 01:17:17,750

believe it or not the truth is out there

2045

01:17:26,870 --> 01:17:22,320

for people who have the eyes to see

2046

01:17:30,630 --> 01:17:26,880

my favorite show makes me more aware

2047

01:17:34,870 --> 01:17:30,640

who could it be

2048

01:17:40,149 --> 01:17:34,880

the higher side chat thc

2049

01:17:44,149 --> 01:17:41,660

thc

2050

01:17:45,460 --> 01:17:44,159

[Applause]

2051

01:18:05,910 --> 01:17:45,470

is

2052

01:18:05,920 --> 01:18:11,030

believe it or not the truth

2053

01:18:18,550 --> 01:18:14,070

eyes is see

2054

01:18:22,390 --> 01:18:18,560

my favorite show makes me more aware

2055

01:18:25,990 --> 01:18:22,400

who could it be

2056

01:18:29,110 --> 01:18:26,000

the higher side chats believe it or not

2057

01:18:32,709 --> 01:18:29,120

the truth is out there for people who

2058

01:18:37,189 --> 01:18:32,719

have the eyes to see

2059

01:18:41,030 --> 01:18:37,199

my favorite show makes me more aware

2060

01:18:44,560 --> 01:18:41,040

who could it be

2061

01:18:45,470 --> 01:18:44,570

the higher side chest thc

2062

01:18:56,870 --> 01:18:45,480

[Applause]

2063

01:18:59,669 --> 01:18:56,880

[Music]

2064

01:19:01,590 --> 01:18:59,679

and that is another show complete

2065

01:19:03,910 --> 01:19:01,600

remember as much as you enjoyed this

2066

01:19:05,669 --> 01:19:03,920

which is just the free first hour i hope

2067

01:19:08,470 --> 01:19:05,679

you'll become a plus member to hear the

2068

01:19:10,390 --> 01:19:08,480

full two hour interviews you also can

2069

01:19:12,950 --> 01:19:10,400

engage with other plus members in the

2070

01:19:14,550 --> 01:19:12,960

comments and the forums and you'll find

2071

01:19:16,390 --> 01:19:14,560

your answer to one of the most common

2072

01:19:18,070 --> 01:19:16,400

questions i get which is where can i

2073

01:19:19,990 --> 01:19:18,080

find those cover songs that you use at

2074

01:19:22,390 --> 01:19:20,000

the end of the show well they are free

2075

01:19:24,470 --> 01:19:22,400

downloads for plus members too and

2076

01:19:26,470 --> 01:19:24,480

without plus members i can't hire the

2077

01:19:29,110 --> 01:19:26,480

occasional musician to bring these odd

2078

01:19:31,030 --> 01:19:29,120

cover song ideas to fruition plus

2079

01:19:33,030 --> 01:19:31,040

members are how i'm able to do what i do

2080

01:19:35,830 --> 01:19:33,040

without ads and without the big machine

2081

01:19:37,750 --> 01:19:35,840

being on my back we can fit so much more

2082

01:19:39,669 --> 01:19:37,760

into a two-hour interview and i do my

2083

01:19:40,550 --> 01:19:39,679

best to make it worth your time and

2084

01:19:42,709 --> 01:19:40,560

money

2085

01:19:45,030 --> 01:19:42,719

the conversation only gets deeper

2086

01:19:47,189 --> 01:19:45,040

weirder and more controversial in that

2087

01:19:48,470 --> 01:19:47,199

private hour how could it not the way

2088

01:19:50,669 --> 01:19:48,480

things are going

2089

01:19:52,950 --> 01:19:50,679

but the best way to sign up is at the

2090

01:19:55,590 --> 01:19:52,960

highersidechats.com where new first-time

2091

01:19:58,149 --> 01:19:55,600

subscribers always get a free seven-day

2092

01:20:00,229 --> 01:19:58,159

trial because i'm just that confident

2093

01:20:02,390 --> 01:20:00,239

there's no paypal on the website but if

2094

01:20:04,149 --> 01:20:02,400

you need to use paypal then sign up

2095

01:20:05,350 --> 01:20:04,159

through patreon and you get all the same

2096

01:20:07,430 --> 01:20:05,360

episodes

2097

01:20:09,110 --> 01:20:07,440

our website is a credit or debit system

2098

01:20:11,990 --> 01:20:09,120

but you can also scope out the other

2099

01:20:14,629 --> 01:20:12,000

options like a few various cryptos cash

2100

01:20:16,470 --> 01:20:14,639

or check mail to the po box and i'll

2101

01:20:18,229 --> 01:20:16,480

even barter with most people if you have

2102

01:20:20,950 --> 01:20:18,239

your own business and produce something

2103

01:20:22,950 --> 01:20:20,960

nice that my wife or kid or taste buds

2104

01:20:24,950 --> 01:20:22,960

might like but the architects of

2105

01:20:26,629 --> 01:20:24,960

consensus reality have made it clear

2106

01:20:29,030 --> 01:20:26,639

that these themes and topics aren't

2107

01:20:31,590 --> 01:20:29,040

really welcome on the main stage and so

2108

01:20:33,590 --> 01:20:31,600

this is how we secure a little culture

2109

01:20:35,990 --> 01:20:33,600

corner for ourselves and i hope you'll

2110

01:20:37,030 --> 01:20:36,000

join plus because that is the only way

2111

01:20:39,590 --> 01:20:37,040

it works

2112

01:20:41,990 --> 01:20:39,600

besides you can cancel anytime right on

2113

01:20:44,070 --> 01:20:42,000

your profile page the most common

2114

01:20:46,550 --> 01:20:44,080

concern i hear is people just being

2115

01:20:48,950 --> 01:20:46,560

unsure if thc plus will work with their

2116

01:20:51,430 --> 01:20:48,960

podcast app and the answer is probably

2117

01:20:53,350 --> 01:20:51,440

yes but if not we have several

2118

01:20:55,510 --> 01:20:53,360

high-level app recommendations for

2119

01:20:57,270 --> 01:20:55,520

whatever phone you use and the website

2120

01:20:58,950 --> 01:20:57,280

is made for mobile too

2121

01:21:00,629 --> 01:20:58,960

we're trained to tip a waitress for

2122

01:21:02,470 --> 01:21:00,639

bringing us a sandwich but that tip

2123

01:21:05,030 --> 01:21:02,480

doesn't give you access to a second

2124

01:21:06,550 --> 01:21:05,040

sandwich really i'm not asking for any

2125

01:21:08,550 --> 01:21:06,560

more than that and i think i offer a

2126

01:21:10,870 --> 01:21:08,560

better service come get your second

2127

01:21:12,870 --> 01:21:10,880

serving of tasty conspiracy goodness in

2128

01:21:15,510 --> 01:21:12,880

exchange for that small token of your

2129

01:21:17,430 --> 01:21:15,520

appreciation beyond that let it also be

2130

01:21:19,750 --> 01:21:17,440

known that we have grown and survived as

2131

01:21:21,830 --> 01:21:19,760

long as we have by word of mouth

2132

01:21:23,910 --> 01:21:21,840

i don't care so much about social media

2133

01:21:27,030 --> 01:21:23,920

likes or follows but tell the right

2134

01:21:28,709 --> 01:21:27,040

people about thc and not just listeners

2135

01:21:30,790 --> 01:21:28,719

but the high level figures who are

2136

01:21:33,110 --> 01:21:30,800

better suited to sit down with me than

2137

01:21:35,030 --> 01:21:33,120

most other hosts and if you can help me

2138

01:21:37,030 --> 01:21:35,040

with any of these things i can work to

2139

01:21:38,790 --> 01:21:37,040

bring you better shows which is just a

2140

01:21:40,830 --> 01:21:38,800

win-win for both of us

2141

01:21:43,110 --> 01:21:40,840

informative entertaining and

2142

01:21:44,790 --> 01:21:43,120

action-packed it also never hurts to

2143

01:21:46,709 --> 01:21:44,800

thank a guest you liked if you have the

2144

01:21:48,229 --> 01:21:46,719

time either we want them to know people

2145

01:21:50,390 --> 01:21:48,239

are listening so they're willing to come

2146

01:21:52,629 --> 01:21:50,400

back down the road too thank you for