

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

**A Practical Introduction to
VA Disability Claims for
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
for Military Veterans**

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

*A Medical, Legal and Political Review
of the Department Of Veterans
Affairs Approach to Service
Connection of Posttraumatic Stress
Disorder for Trauma in Combat,
Military Hazards, Crimes and
Military Sexual Trauma (MST).*

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Presenter:

Hugh D. Cox,

Solo Attorney at Law,

2411 B Charles Blvd.,

Greenville, NC 27858

(252) 757-3977

hughcox@hughcox.com

NC Bar # 6567

VA Accreditation # 8925

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

at the kind invitation of
Maria E. Bruner, Esq., MSW, BSW
NC Vetcorp Member
Legal Aid of North Carolina
607 Broad Street
New Bern, NC 28560

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

I apologize to the attendees for this lengthy written presentation. I chose this length to make this PTSD presentation as a self-sufficient desk reference requiring no further materials to initiate and pursue a PTSD claim. I hope you will agree this effort is a handy reference.

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All opinions expressed in this presentation are not the views of North Carolina Legal Aid, Pitt Community College or any other speaker at the seminar.

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- During World War II, most overseas veterans did not return home until after the war ended. Some were away for years.

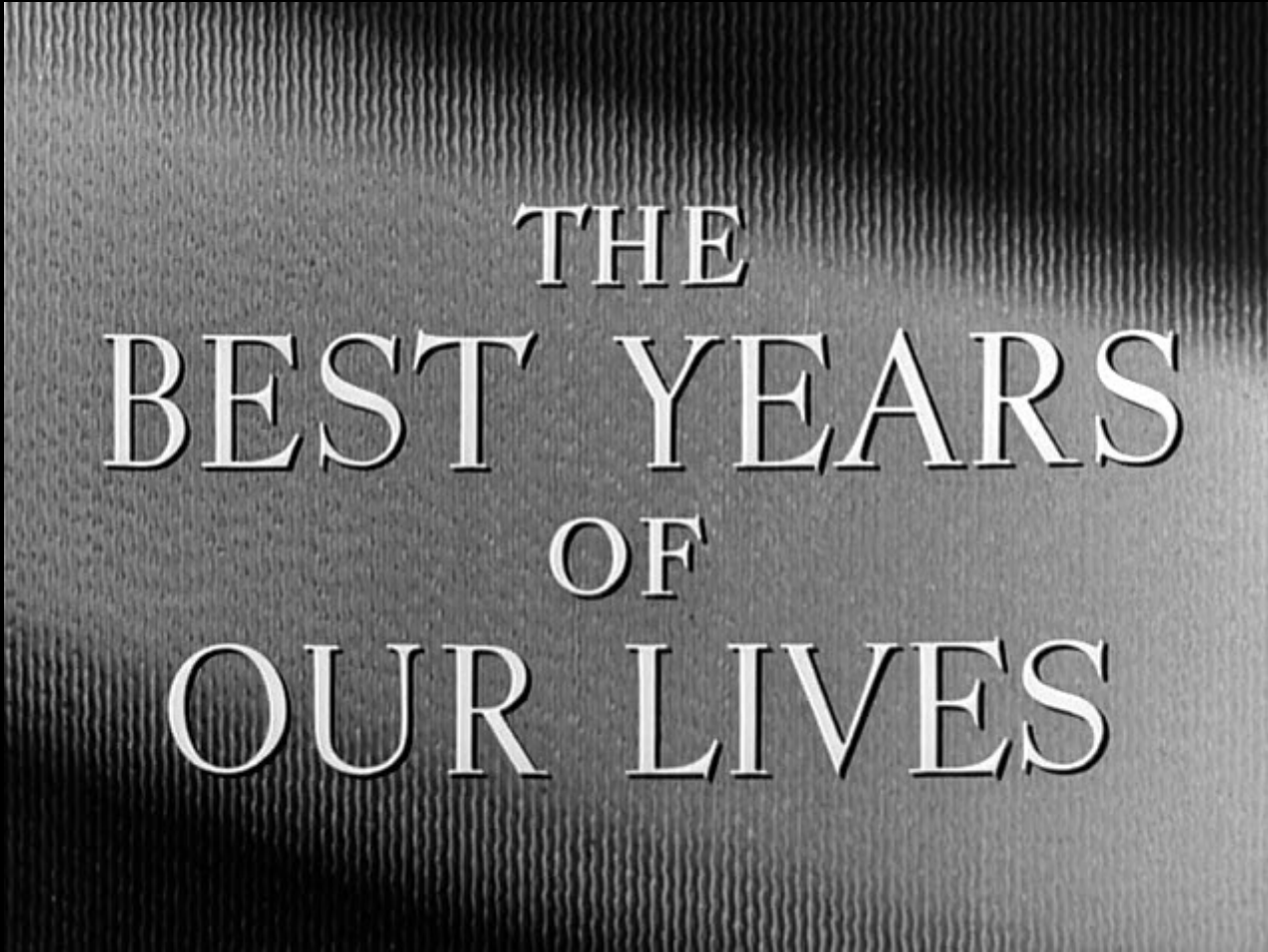
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- Homecoming was never easy. Arrival home was usually unannounced because telephone calls and telegrams were costly.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

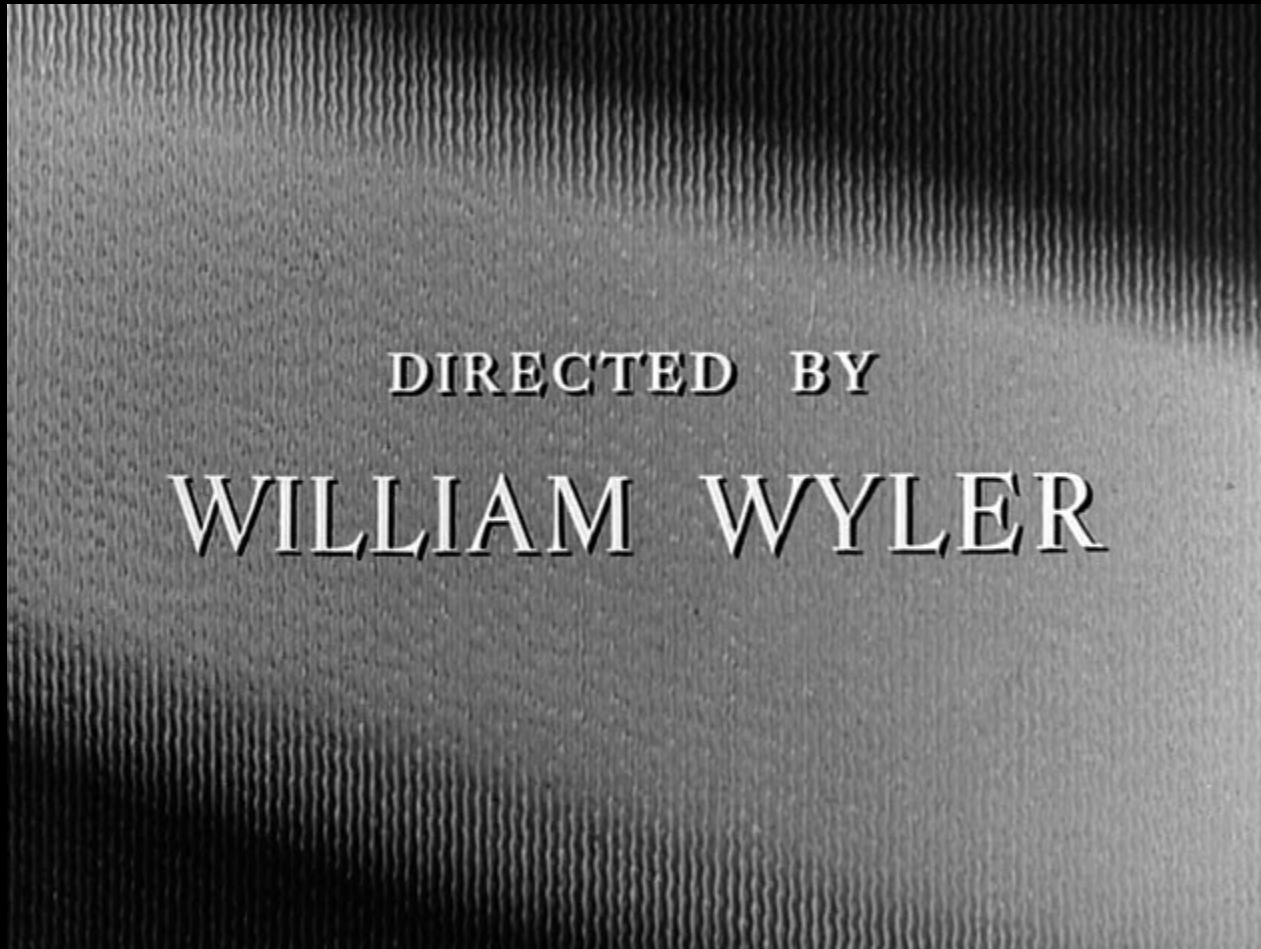
- Families faced the wounds, disfigurement, amputations and prosthesis when veterans returned.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



THE
BEST YEARS
OF
OUR LIVES

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

4

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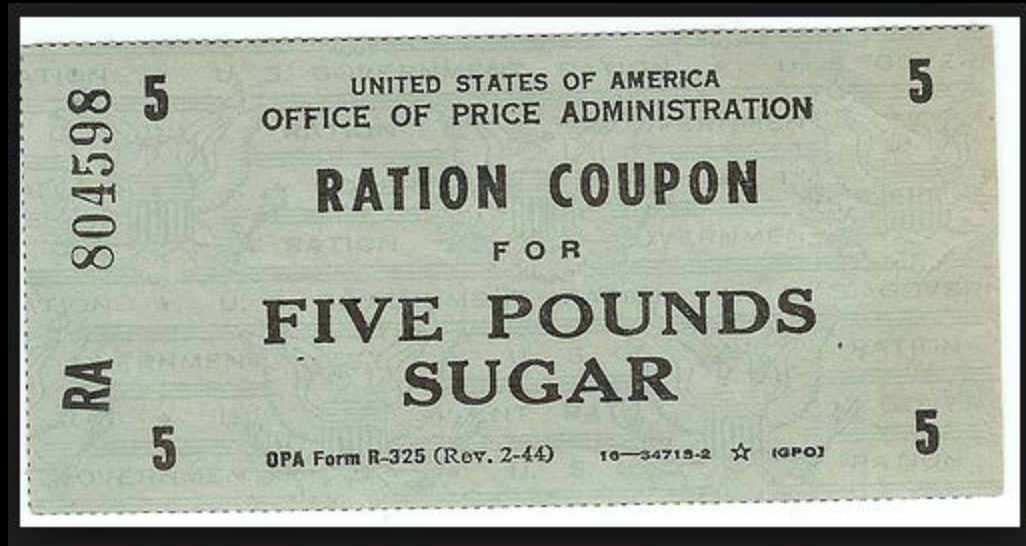
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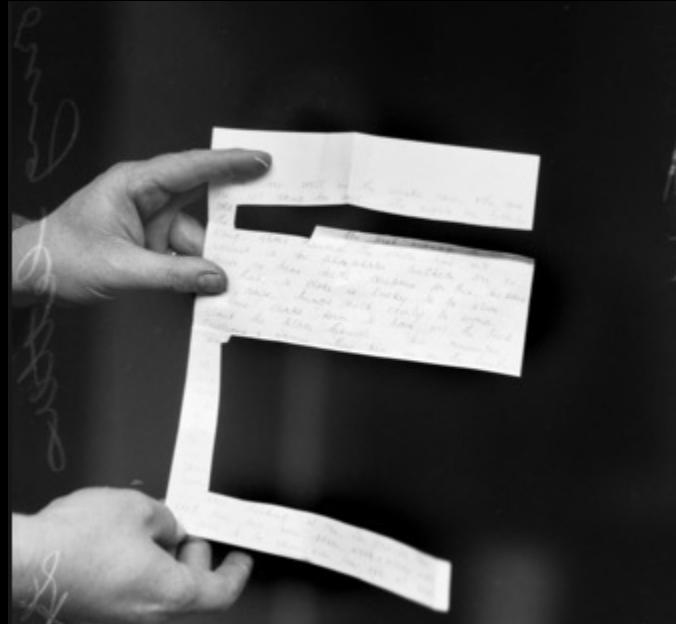
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Censored World War II letters

<http://wwiileters.blogspot.com/2009/03/letter-censorship-during-wwii.html>

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

The Best Years of Our Lives
movie scene.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

The Best Years of Our Lives
movie scene.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Vietnam veterans suffered
PTSD at a rate of
approximately 15%.

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/basics/how-common-is-ptsd.asp>

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Persian Gulf War veterans suffered
PTSD at a rate of
approximately 12%.

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/basics/how-common-is-ptsd.asp>

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans
Suffer PTSD at a rate of
approximately 11 to 20%

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/PTSD-overview/basics/how-common-is-ptsd.asp>

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Awards, decorations and badges
showing combat qualification:

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Congressional Medal of Honor

Distinguished Service Cross

Navy Cross

Air Force Cross

Silver Star

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Any military decoration
With “V” device
For Valor.



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United States Army
Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB)

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



United States Marine Corps
Combat Action Ribbon
(U.S. Navy eligible also)

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



United States Army
Combat Medical Badge

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

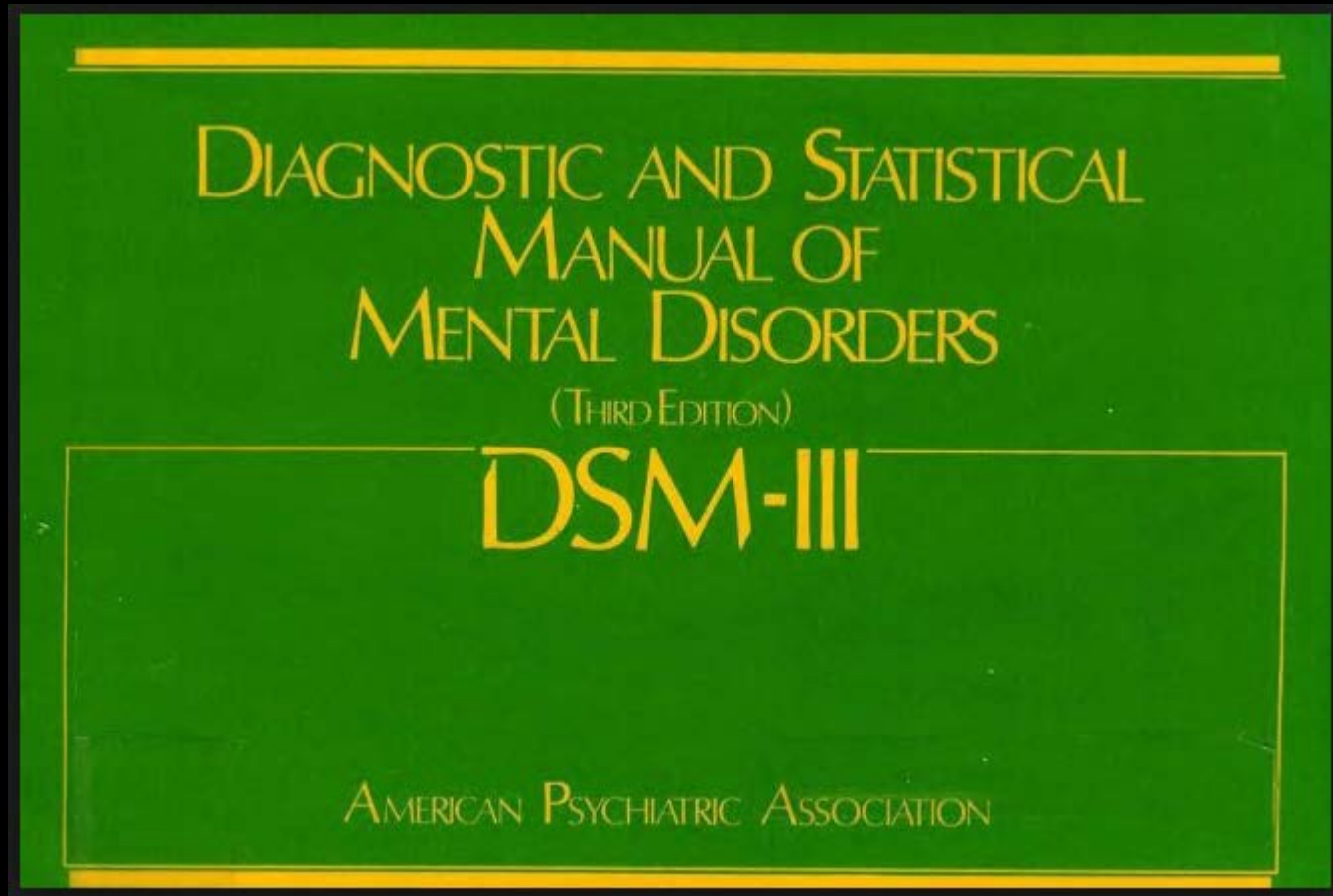


United States Army
Combat Action Badge

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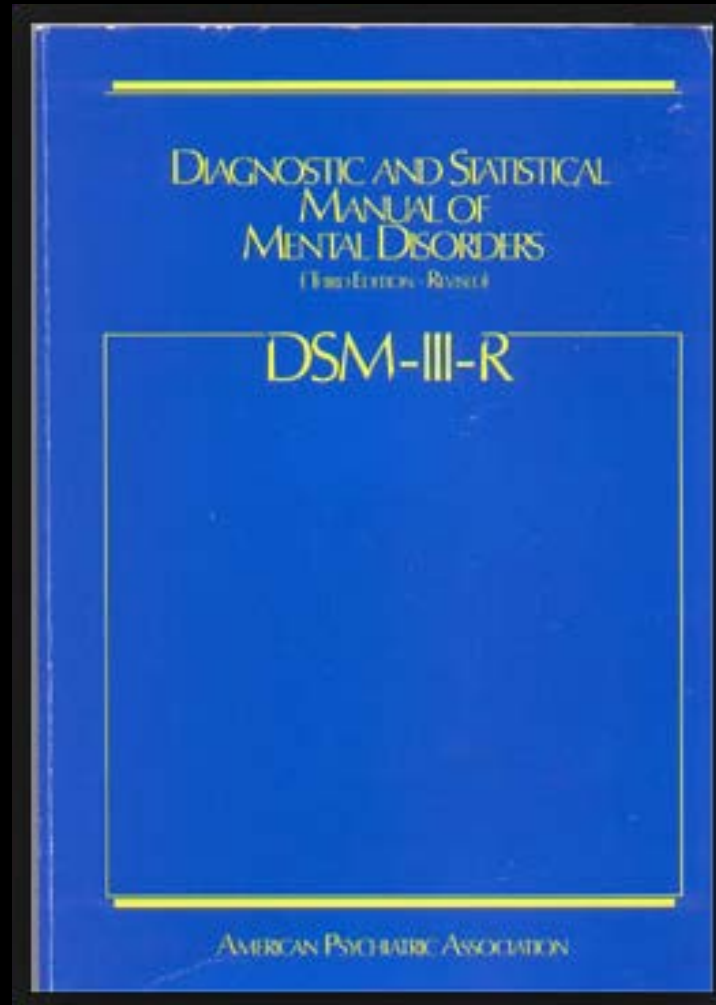
Publications of the
Diagnostic and Statistical Manual
of Mental Disorders (DSM)

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



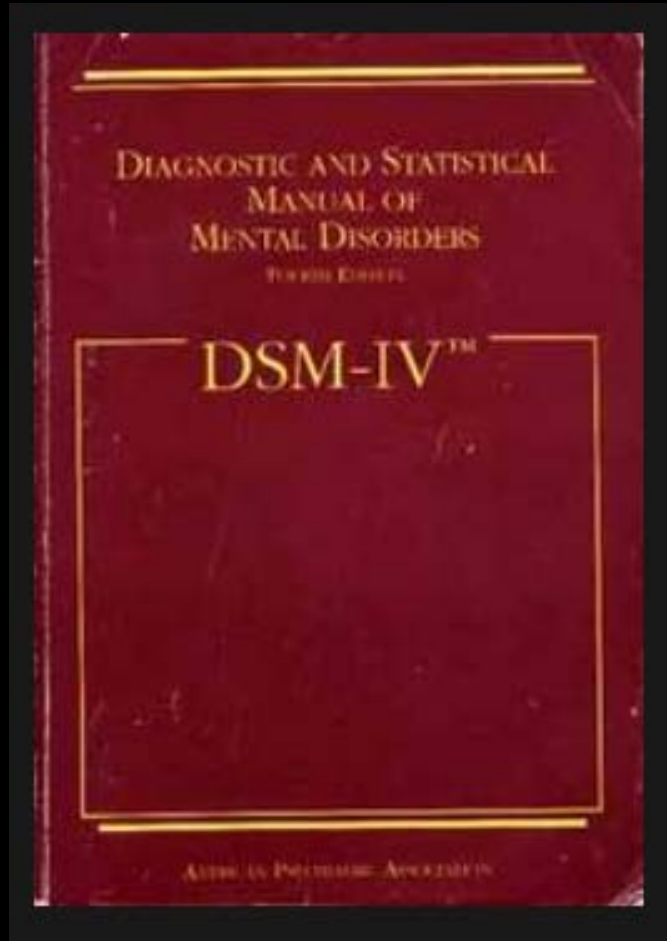
1980

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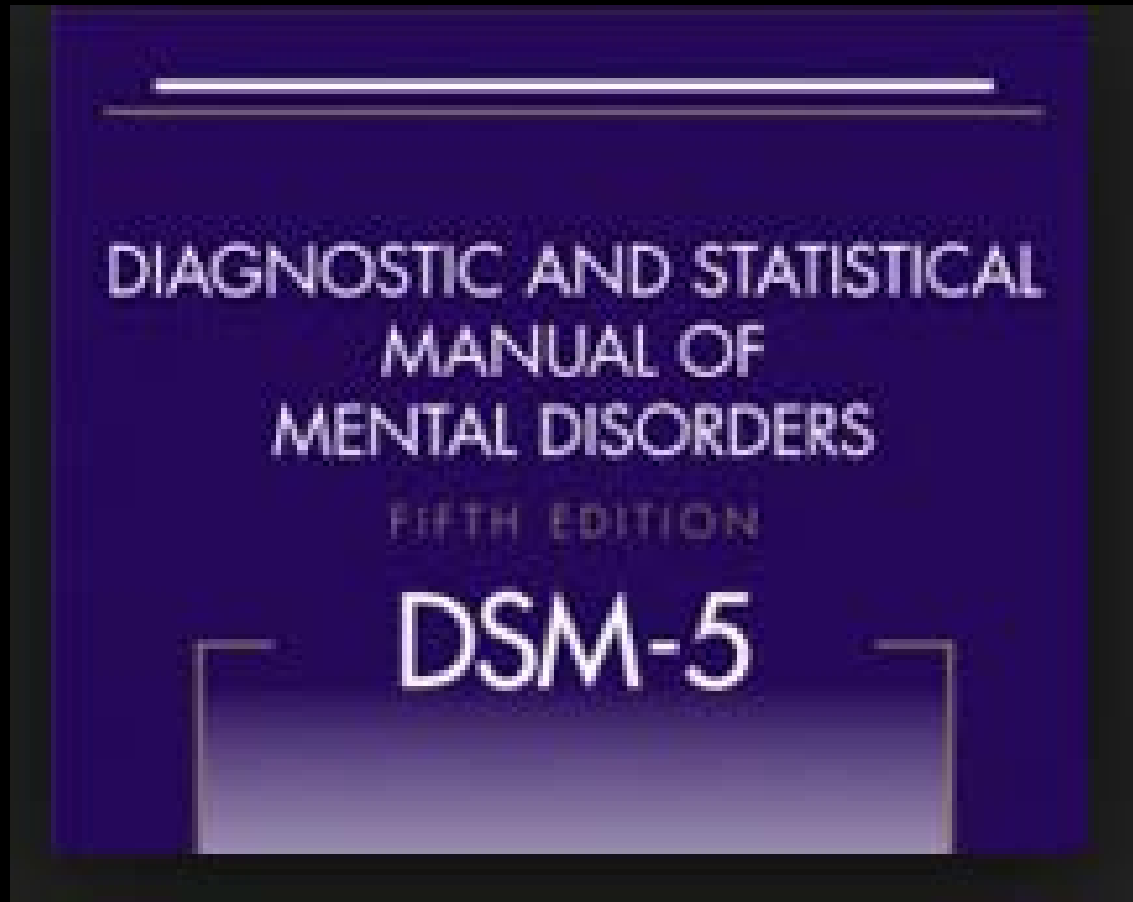
1987

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



1994

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



2013

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

There are many simple
screening tests
on the Internet
for PTSD.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Proving PTSD
when the
veteran was in combat.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Proving PTSD
when the
veteran had fear
of hostile military
or terrorist action.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Proving PTSD
when the
veteran faced personal assault
or military sexual trauma (MST).

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

The Best Years of Our Lives
movie scene.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

*See M21-1MR, Part IV,
Subpart ii, Chapter 1, Section D,
Subsection D, paragraph f
for the 30 page manual
dealing with PTSD
and military sexual trauma located at*

http://www.benefits.va.gov/WARMS/docs/admin21/m21_1/mr/part4/subptii/ch01/IV_II_1_secD.doc.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Obtaining a reliable diagnosis
on a credible form
from a trusted physician
for posttraumatic stress disorder.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

The best cases to represent are those where the veteran is already service-connected.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

PTSD after combat
can be worse for
younger military members
with less maturity
and lesser social skills.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Family and peer group
care and affection can lessen
PTSD impact.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Political opposition to
“entitlements” generally
and especially for
Department of Veteran Affairs
ratings and awards.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

The future of
service-connection
for PTSD.

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Thank you.

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