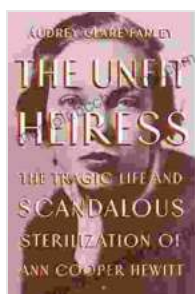


The Tragic Life And Scandalous Sterilization Of Ann Cooper Hewitt

Ann Cooper Hewitt was born into a wealthy and prominent family in New York City in 1884. Her father, Abram Hewitt, was a successful businessman and politician, and her mother, Sarah Cooper Hewitt, was a socialite and philanthropist. Ann was a bright and beautiful young woman with a promising future. However, her life took a tragic turn when she was diagnosed with epilepsy at the age of 12.

In the early 20th century, epilepsy was considered a shameful and incurable disease. People with epilepsy were often ostracized from society and subjected to discrimination and abuse. Ann's family was no exception. They were ashamed of her condition and tried to keep it a secret. Ann was sent to a boarding school for children with epilepsy, where she was subjected to a series of barbaric treatments, including forced sterilization.



The Unfit Heiress: The Tragic Life and Scandalous Sterilization of Ann Cooper Hewitt by Audrey Clare Farley

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2923 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 305 pages

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Forced sterilization was a common practice in the early 20th century. It was believed that people with epilepsy and other disabilities were unfit to reproduce. In the United States, over 60,000 people were sterilized against their will between 1907 and 1963. Ann was one of these victims.

In 1906, Ann was taken to the New York State Hospital for the Treatment of Incipient Pulmonary Tuberculosis at Ray Brook, New York. She was told that she was going to have a minor operation to remove her tonsils. However, the doctors performed a hysterectomy instead, sterilizing her without her knowledge or consent.

Ann was devastated by the surgery. She had always dreamed of having children, and now that dream was gone. She was also angry and humiliated. She knew that she had been sterilized because of her epilepsy, and she felt like a freak.

Ann's story is a heartbreaking example of the injustice that people with disabilities have faced throughout history. She was a victim of a cruel and misguided policy that sought to eliminate people with disabilities from society. Her story is a reminder of the importance of fighting for the rights of all people, regardless of their abilities.

The Legacy of Ann Cooper Hewitt

Ann Cooper Hewitt's story is a tragedy, but it is also a story of hope. She was a strong and courageous woman who never gave up on her dreams. Despite the adversity she faced, she went on to live a full and meaningful life. She became a successful artist and advocate for people with disabilities.

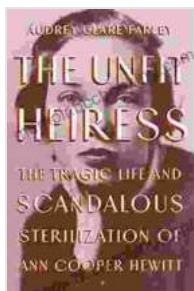
Ann's legacy lives on today. She is remembered as a pioneer in the fight for the rights of people with disabilities. Her story is a reminder that we must never give up on our dreams, no matter what obstacles we may face.

Call to Action

You can help to continue Ann Cooper Hewitt's legacy by supporting organizations that fight for the rights of people with disabilities. You can also learn more about the history of eugenics and the forced sterilization of people with disabilities. By raising awareness of this issue, we can help to prevent it from happening again.

Here are some resources for learning more about Ann Cooper Hewitt and the history of eugenics:

- The Ann Cooper Hewitt Association
- Eugenics: A History of Forced Sterilization
- The Sterilization of People with Disabilities: A Historical Perspective



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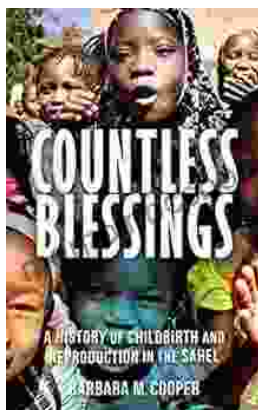
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