

ABOUT LEONARD ROY FRANK

In the 1990s update to his terrific book, *Electroshock: The Case Against*, which offers summaries of activist resistance to electroshock over the last four decades of the 20th century, Robert Morgan offered the following acknowledgment of Leonard Frank.

His written work on ECT and advocacy against it have straddled the decades covered in this book. Initially disabled by ECT, Leonard devised some particularly ingenious organizational and memory techniques to overcome his resultant learning disabilities. He has devoted his life to addressing and correcting abuses of the psychiatric system, particularly ECT. Although he has been a strong and effective figure in this history over the decades, it is particularly now that he has emerged as a key figure. A tough, gentle, articulate and consummately effective organizer, he has probably done more to advance survivors' rights than anyone else. A former editor of the *Madness Network News* (survivors journal) and current primary leader of the opposition, both scientist/professional and survivor, he has been the role model and integrity for a very diverse coalition of independent individuals. Thanks to Leonard, a very well financed and credentialed initiative was defeated, at least in San Francisco, at least for now.

Leonard Frank has been strong, effective, gentle and tough with me over the last decade as he became a primary mentor and very close friend. He is best described, however, by the dynamics of love and truth. More than anyone, he has helped me to become more clear about language and the patterns of psychiatric oppression. When the idea to form the Coalition for the Abolition of Electroshock in Texas came into my head last summer, Leonard nurtured the idea with enthusiastic support, and helped us be clear about our Gandhian approach of active, transparent, nonviolent resistance. As we organized ourselves into existence this past fall, Leonard stepped up and has been an integral voice of wisdom, guidance and encouragement. I am grateful to be working shoulder to shoulder with this awesome man, in his fifth decade of activism against psychiatric oppression in general, and electroshock in particular.

The Electroshock Quotationary is the single best document available to learn about the reality of this horrific practice.

--John Breeding, PhD
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