

The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

SCIENCE NEWS

January 21, 1995
Vol. 147, No. 3
Pages 33-48

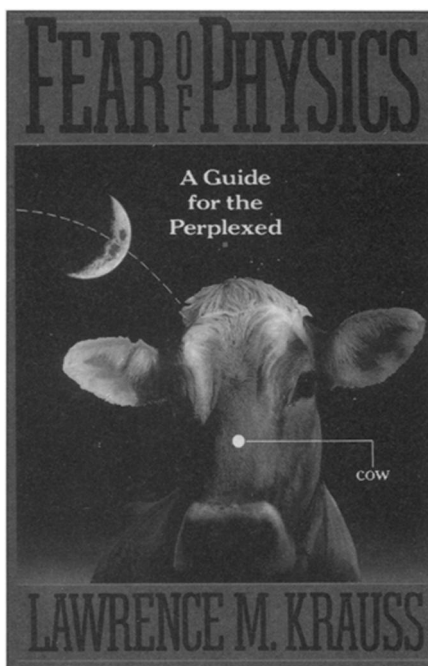


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 —from *Basic Books*

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More than 600,000 hysterectomies are performed each year in the United States. Fewer than 10 percent of them, says Dr. Stanley West, are necessary.

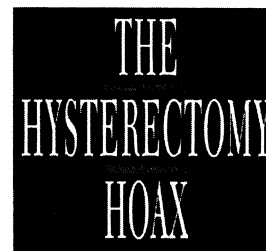
West's straight talk and unequivocal position are unique, even in a field of books on the subject. He believes—and states in no uncertain terms—that virtually *no* hysterectomy is ever necessary except when a woman has cancer. In any other circumstance, he says, the operation presents unacceptable risks and will likely do more harm than good. Clearly and carefully he describes the alternative, preferred treatments that are always available to every woman, no matter what her age.

Stanley West speaks out boldly against his medical colleagues for taking "the easy way out," and explains how insurance companies contribute to and encourage the high hysterectomy rate. Most importantly, however, he educates women about how their bodies work and explains why they should challenge their doctors. It is his mission to empower women to take control of their health care, to insist upon a dialogue with their doctors, and to *demand* the kind of treatment they deserve.
 —from *Doubleday*

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