



Title: 16 pioneras valencianas frente a las adicciones

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Published by: Nau llibres - Edicions Culturals Valencianes, S.A.

ISBN: 978-84-16926-89-3

Number of pages: 174

Year: 2022

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Throughout history and through to modern day, women have been largely made to be invisible in all areas of society. The fields of science, research and addiction are no exception to this. Fortunately, in recent years, slowly but surely, the role of women has started to be recognised, valued and respected. For example, in the field of social and cultural Anthropology in Spain, the careers and decisive contributions to drug addictions by Nuria Romo and Carmen Meneses are particularly noteworthy.

There are now more and more publications on the biographies of women and they reach a wide public. The book “16 Pioneer Valencian Women against Addictions” was written by Dayana Arteta and Víctor Agulló,

within this context, published by the prestigious publishers Nau Libres. They are both sociologists who have specialised in Addictions and Public Health through a gender perspective.

The book invites us to read about the legacy of some exceptional women who have paved the way for future generations. It includes 16 female peers, discussed in alphabetical order, namely the Psychologists: Leonor Cano Pérez, Teresa Fernández March, Carmina Palau Muñoz and Marta Rodríguez Arias; the Doctors Marina Gisbert Grifo, Carmela Moya García, Amparo Sánchez Mániz and Teresa Part Martín; the social workers Josefa Gómez Moya and Mercedes Sánchez Guerrero; the Biochemist Consue-



lo Guerri Sirera; the Nurse Mari Paz Crespo Marzo, the Occupational Therapist Ana Hernández Merino, the Psychiatrist Elena Ibáñez Guerra, the sociocultural activities coordinator Francisca Lucas Belando and the Politician Marcela Miró Pérez.

Through their biographical narratives, the huge advances in the democracy and articulation of the state into autonomous regions in our country are described, a political change that largely facilitated the creation of specific treatment and prevention centres, in conjunction with legislative regulation in a context where practically everything remained to be done. Parallel and complementarily to this, the Valencian regional government gave an enormous boost to scientific research, which permitted tackling this social problem of public health in an effective, coordinated manner.

On the other hand, we need to highlight the fact that these women were largely self-taught, and started work at a very young age. They had to overcome many barriers and obstacles, as they give their accounts in their biographies in an enjoyable, educational manner. We would like this book to be followed by other similar books in other geographical contexts, so that, to quote the book, "it piques our curiosity and makes us want to find out more about these exceptionally unique women".