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# **The Reason Why Traditional Nursing Homes in America SUCK: How Anyone Can Help Bring About the CHANGES for Every Single Nursing Home in America Today**

*Roberta Weathers*

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## *The Reason Why Traditional Nursing Homes in America SUCK*

& How Anyone Can Help Bring  
About the CHANGES for Every Single  
Nursing Home in America Today

**Roberta Weathers**

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size: 57.Mb

**Roberta Weathers : The Reason Why Traditional Nursing Homes in America SUCK: How Anyone Can Help Bring About the CHANGES for Every Single Nursing Home in America Today** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Reason Why Traditional Nursing Homes in America SUCK: How Anyone Can Help Bring About the CHANGES for Every Single Nursing Home in America Today*:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. *The Reason Why Traditional Nursing Homes in America Suck* By Gail Sobotkin Author Roberta Weathers takes readers on an insider's tour of how traditional nursing homes, often owned by corporations that pay large salaries to CEO's, are less concerned with providing a home-like atmosphere and quality medical care for residents than they are about generating profits to shareholders. Ms. Weathers, who has a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and a Master's degree in Organizational Management, has worked with the elderly for more than 2 decades. She started her career as a nursing assistant and eventually became Social Services Director in a long term care facility. Drawing on personal experience and her extensive professional knowledge, Ms. Weathers paints a vivid picture of what life is like for nursing home residents who must adhere to a multitude of rules set up for the benefit of the institution or risk being labeled a behavioral problem and given treatment with powerful psychotropic medication in order to control a 'behavior' the staff is having a problem with. She argues that many of the behavioral problems could be eliminated if the nursing home residents were allowed more freedom from arbitrary rules and were given more individualized care plans and attention by staff. Ms. Weathers asserts that the nursing home system, as it is now, is broken and in dire need of a fix. The solution, she says, is culture change, and it will only come about as residents and their families begin to demand it. The final chapters of the book describe what culture change is and how nursing homes can incorporate the changes with minimal cost and with a positive benefit of increasing the number of potential residents who apply to the facility. This book should be mandatory reading for all nursing, social work and nursing assistant students and other health care professionals. The book will also be an eye opener and empowerment tool for all family members of nursing home residents and will help them recognize the attributes of a quality nursing home.

For most families, loved ones and close friends, the decision to place someone in a nursing home can be a very traumatic experience largely due to the guilt many people feel about leaving their special person in a facility, no matter how nice the nursing home may seem. This book explains that their fears are not unfounded because unless a nursing home is a culture change facility, it is not a nice place to live.

About the Author Roberta Weathers is from the Finger Lakes area of New York State. She has a Bachelors degree in Sociology and a masters degree in Organizational Management. She has worked with the older population for over twenty years in different capacities, first as a nursing assistant then as a home health aide and also as a Social Services Director in a long term care facility. She has worked in the traditional nursing homes as we know them in America. The way they are set up and run has been important to her as they do not resemble a persons home.