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Subject: Open discussion on cancer.

Posted by [boma57](#) on Fri, 14 Nov 2003 20:36:44 GMT

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CrimsonYeah, I'm not sure if it's such an epidemic more than it was before. I mean, overall our life expectancies are getting longer. Isn't it possible that back in the "old days", the doctors didn't know what cancer was and just as many people died from it?

There are many theories about what long ago illnesses actually were. I read an awesome book by Robin Cook referring back to the Salem witch trials. This doctor found some seeds of some sort that grew naturally in that area and apparently has a hallucinagenic effect. Apparently in this area, they suspected it got into the bread.

The doctor also discovers that after he takes a small sample of the seed, once the hallucinations have passed, that his mind is more clear than ever before... he can remember things he'd thought he'd forgotten. So he gets funding to try and remove the hallucination and isolate the memory enhancement part of the cell structure. It's a fascinating read. It's called Acceptable Risk.

I've also heard that of the Salem Witch trials. The drug was actually a fungus that got onto the grain, and therefore into the bread. They think it could have caused the initial hallucinations and convulsions, but said that had they ingested the drug for as long as the trials went on (about a year) further problems would have arisen such as Gangrene. Thus, the leading theory now is that the drug started it, and the power of suggestion carried it.

Anyway, as far as cancer, I believe what Crimson and some other people have already said. Back in "the day", let's say 10 people died of cancer as an example. You might hear about the one or two worst cases. Now, if 10 people die of cancer, you'll most likely hear about all of them, or at least a high percentage.

For example, I only have one relative who has died of cancer (thankfully only one). I visit these boards though, and so I also hear about these tragic cases which seem more personal because I know or have at least associated with some of those people affected by it.

If you take the exact same situation and go back 20 years before the internet, I would still only know one. I think it's just perception that makes it appear to be spreading, but I don't believe it to actually be doing as much spreading as it can be made out to be.

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