Brain science is the least explored of all our sciences. As a result, fear, trepidation, and stigma are associated with the invisible world of brain illnesses (referred to as “mental illnesses”). People are afraid to advocate for themselves and their loved ones to get help in times of need.

But the brain is just another organ, and as such, can be healthy or unhealthy. In this presentation, Jeremy Richman will discuss what is known about risk factors for engaging in violent behavior and protective factors for building connection and compassion.

Richman seeks to better understand the neurobiological and environmental factors associated with violence and compassion. The insights from research can be used to teach citizens about how to identify the signs and symptoms of someone troubled or in crisis; how to responsibly advocate for those at risk of violence to themselves or others; and most importantly, how to foster kind, healthy, and compassionate individuals and communities.

Richman is also dedicated to reaching out and educating youth. Most importantly, he believes it is critical to empower youth to advocate for themselves and their peers when it comes to brain health and brain illnesses.

ABOUT FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE LECTURES
Lectures in this series are intended to inform, engage, and inspire students, faculty, staff, and the public on developments, breakthroughs, and topics of general interest in the sciences and mathematics. Lecturers tailor their talk for nonexpert audiences.