

Euthanasia Right To Die Or Mercy Killing

The Dutch experience with euthanasia is valuable for all cultures embroiled in debates about its morality. In the Netherlands, doctors can openly and intentionally end the life of their patients. This practice inescapably influences the practice of medicine everywhere in the world. Yet for a country yielding so much power in shaping our thoughts and policies, it is especially dangerous to neglect its own struggles with euthanasia. The arguments, laws, and policy adjustments should not be overlooked or misunderstood. Without an adequate portrait of the internal Dutch debate, including public and professional arguments as well as intensely personal stories - as set forth in *Asking to Die* - the valuable lessons from the Netherlands will be lost for other countries. This book therefore differs from other published books on euthanasia in that it addresses the debate, as it is currently formulated, among Dutch physicians, policy-makers, academics, lawyers, and bioethicists, as well as families, and it does so using academic papers as well as personal experiences.

In most Council of Europe member states, active euthanasia or assisting a suicide are illegal. The issue is the subject of a lively debate, both in professional circles and amongst the general public, and two countries, the Netherlands and Belgium, have decided to change their laws to enable doctors to bring a person's life to an end if certain conditions are fulfilled. This publication takes a detailed look at the practical and legal situation in eight European countries and the United States, as well as taking stock of the discussions taking place throughout Europe on various aspects of the end of life. The ethical and human aspects of the euthanasia debate are discussed in another publication (ISBN 9287150702).

Sensitive and high-profile public policy issues often benefit from being considered in comparative perspective. Here, euthanasia and the right to die are examined in the context of the social, legal, and religious settings of a wide range of countries. The authors employ public opinion data, where available, to illustrate the great disparity between approval of physician-assisted suicide and the general illegality of the practice. Ultimately, making and implementing laws to ensure a responsible right to die—as the U.S. has been struggling with in Oregon, Michigan, and elsewhere—will be informed by experiences in such places as the Netherlands, Australia, and the only country in the world where euthanasia is a clear-cut medical option: Colombia.

When the end of life makes its inevitable appearance, people should be able to expect reliable, humane, and effective caregiving. Yet too many dying people suffer unnecessarily. While an "overtreated" dying is feared, untreated pain or emotional abandonment are equally frightening. *Approaching Death* reflects a wide-ranging effort to understand what we know about care at the end of life, what we have yet to learn, and what we know but do not adequately apply. It seeks to build understanding of what constitutes good care for the dying and offers recommendations to decisionmakers that address specific barriers to achieving good care. This volume offers a profile of when, where, and how Americans die. It examines the dimensions of caring at the end of life: Determining diagnosis and prognosis and communicating these to patient and family. Establishing clinical and personal goals. Matching physical, psychological, spiritual, and practical care strategies to the patient's values and circumstances. *Approaching Death* considers the dying experience in hospitals, nursing homes, and other settings and the role of interdisciplinary teams and managed care. It offers perspectives on quality measurement and improvement, the role of practice guidelines, cost concerns, and legal issues such as assisted suicide. The book proposes how health professionals can become better prepared to care well for those who are dying and to understand that these are not patients for whom "nothing can be done."

Discusses the religious, ethical, and medical aspects of the controversial topic of euthanasia and the "right to die."

"Argues that people who promote the legalization of euthanasia ignore the vast ethical, legal and social differences between euthanasia and natural death. Permitting euthanasia, Somerville demonstrates, would cause irreparable harm to respect for human life and society." --Cover.

While it may seem that debates over euthanasia began with Jack Kervorkian, the practice of mercy killing extends back to Ancient Greece and beyond. In America, the debate has raged for well over a century. Now, in *A Merciful End*, Ian Dowbiggin offers the first full-scale historical account of one of the most controversial reform movements in America. Drawing on unprecedented access to the archives of the Euthanasia Society of America, interviews with important figures in the movement today, and flashpoint cases such as the tragic fate of Karen Ann Quinlan, Dowbiggin tells the dramatic story of the men and women who struggled throughout the twentieth century to change the nation's attitude--and its laws--regarding mercy killing. In tracing the history of the euthanasia movement, he documents its intersection with other progressive social causes: women's suffrage, birth control, abortion rights, as well as its uneasy pre-WWII alliance with eugenics. Such links brought euthanasia activists into fierce conflict with Judeo-Christian institutions who worried that "the right to die" might become a "duty to die." Indeed, Dowbiggin argues that by joining a sometimes overzealous quest to maximize human freedom with a desire to "improve" society, the euthanasia movement has been dogged by the fear that mercy killing could be extended to persons with disabilities, handicapped newborns, unconscious geriatric patients, lifelong criminals, and even the poor. Justified or not, such fears have stalled the movement, as more and more Americans now prefer better end-of-life care than wholesale changes in euthanasia laws. For anyone trying to decide whether euthanasia offers a humane alternative to prolonged suffering or violates the "sanctity of life," *A Merciful End* provides fascinating and much-needed historical context.

Peeling back the lid on the controversies surrounding mercy killing in the U.S., this full history of the nation's euthanasia movement retraces the history of this recent and

controversial ideology.

A discussion of the moral, religious, legal, and personal issues surrounding euthanasia, suicide, and the right to die.

After assessing the strengths and weaknesses of arguments for assisted suicide and euthanasia, Gorsuch builds a nuanced, novel, and powerful moral and legal argument against legalization, one based on a principle that, surprisingly, has largely been overlooked in the debate; the idea that human life is intrinsically valuable and that intentional killing is always wrong. At the same time, the argument Gorsuch develops leaves wide latitude for individual patient autonomy and the refusal of unwanted medical treatment and life-sustaining care, permitting intervention only in cases where an intention to kill is present. Is there a "right to die"? Should the elderly or the terminally ill be allowed to take their own lives? Should the families of comatose patients be permitted to decide when to "pull the plug"? Offering excerpts from court decisions, this work examines the incendiary issue by illuminating the arguments from both sides.

The co-founders of the Hemlock Society assess the pros and cons of euthanasia and examine significant legal and medical precedents that affect the right to die

First Published in 1996. The key issue in all right-to-die matters is "who decides?" Who will decide whether life support should be terminated? Who will decide if a person is competent to make life and death decisions? The law is quite clear that, in cases of conscious, competent adults, the individual is free to make all decisions relating to his or her care and future. This volume is a collection of writings and case studies around the topics of personal choice, AIDS and informed consent, due process and the right to die.

The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money, written by legendary author John Maynard Keynes is widely considered to be one of the top 100 greatest books of all time. This masterpiece was published right after the Great Depression. It sought to bring about a revolution, commonly referred to as the 'Keynesian Revolution', in the way economists thought—especially challenging the proposition that a market economy tends naturally to restore itself to full employment on its own. Regarded widely as the cornerstone of Keynesian thought, this book challenged the established classical economics and introduced new concepts. 'The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money' transformed economics and changed the face of modern macroeconomics. Keynes' argument is based on the idea that the level of employment is not determined by the price of labour, but by the spending of money. It gave way to an entirely new approach where employment, inflation and the market economy are concerned. Essays discuss the legal and ethical issues related to physician-assisted suicide, the work of Dr. Jack Kevorkian, and lethal prescriptions for the terminally ill

We all die, but should we have the ability to choose when? Death is part of life, but not everyone agrees on the details. What if you have painful, terminal illness? Is it okay to seek suicide if a doctor assists? Do you have a right to end your own life? Is doing so a violation of God's or a greater power's plan? This anthology engages this dilemma from diverse perspectives, grounding abstract and moral discussions in real-life events such as Oregon's right-to-die law. Students will analyze the various facets of this controversial subject with decisive interpretations from religion, medicine, law, and philosophy.

Discusses the issues raised by the question of euthanasia and assisted suicide, and the ethical problems that may arise.

Holland-Frei Cancer Medicine, Ninth Edition, offers a balanced view of the most current knowledge of cancer science and clinical oncology practice. This all-new edition is the consummate reference source for medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, internists, surgical oncologists, and others who treat cancer patients. A translational perspective throughout, integrating cancer biology with cancer management providing an in depth understanding of the disease An emphasis on multidisciplinary, research-driven patient care to improve outcomes and optimal use of all appropriate therapies Cutting-edge coverage of personalized cancer care, including molecular diagnostics and therapeutics Concise, readable, clinically relevant text with algorithms, guidelines and insight into the use of both conventional and novel drugs Includes free access to the Wiley Digital Edition providing search across the book, the full reference list with web links, illustrations and photographs, and post-publication updates

"This book provides a history of Nazi medical euthanasia programs, demonstrating that arguments in their favor were widely embraced by Western medicine before the Third Reich. Contributors find significant continuities between history and current physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia and urge caution about their legalization or implementation"--

The moral issues involved in doctors assisting patients to die with dignity are of absolutely central concern to the medical profession, ethicists, and the public at large. The debate is fuelled by cases that extend far beyond passive euthanasia to the active consideration of killing by physicians. The need for a sophisticated but lucid exposition of the two sides of the argument is now urgent. This book supplies that need. Two prominent philosophers, Gerald Dworkin and R. G. Frey present the case for legalization of physician-assisted suicide. One of the best-known ethicists in the US, Sissela Bok, argues the case against.

Euthanasia is highly controversial. Is it a crime or an ultimate form of care? Can one person help another to die? And what about palliative care? What criteria should govern decisions to terminate or prolong life? Does euthanasia violate the European Convention on Human Rights? This publication contains 13 essays by various authors, looking at euthanasia from the point of view of ethics, and of religion (Buddhism, Catholicism, etc.).

This groundbreaking book uncovers the hidden world of illicit physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia. Through the frank and often troubling first-hand accounts of health professionals who have been involved in assisted death, the book records for the first time this secret but real area of medical and nursing practice. Through face-to-face interviews with these "angels of death," Roger S. Magnusson explores the social practices, relationships, and networks that constitute "underground" euthanasia. How is assisted death actually practiced within health care settings? What are the issues that surround the making of such a momentous decision? How do health care workers justify their attitudes and actions in this area? Angels of Death offers detailed answers to these questions and many others. The doctors, nurses, and therapists who were interviewed pseudonymously for this study work in the HIV/AIDS communities in the United States and Australia. Their perspectives and practices, their attitudes and feelings, illuminate the assisted death debate and expose a variety of disturbing issues, including the reality of "botched attempts," euthanasia without consent, and unduly hasty measures to bring about death. The testimony of medical practitioners, combined with Magnusson's thoughtful assessment of the issues, will be of intense interest to both opponents and advocates of proposals to legalize euthanasia.

Academic Paper from the year 2019 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Topic: Public International Law and Human Rights, grade: B, University of Catania (Department of Political and Social Sciences), language: English, abstract: Humans are free by nature. They enjoy right to self-preservation given the notion that humans themselves are the owners of their lives. This ownership of life bestows the right to make decisions on individual life solely on the owner of life; that is, the right to life and the right to die. As a result, individuals make decisions on whether their lives worth continuous existence or not on the basis of their encounter with the challenges of life, society, and health. To many, pains, agonies, indignities, and poor health vitiates good life. Therefore, continuous existence in such a situation debases the quality of being humans, according to many people. As a result, euthanasia and/or suicide are at the top of the decision ladder of such people in the above category. The question of whether or not individuals have right to end their lives by themselves or through another is subjected to moral, philosophical, and societal debates with different literature, policymakers, and professionals questioning the rationale behind the decision to end one's life by oneself or through the help of another person. This paper aims at expanding the debate by asking whether ownership of life leads to the right to die.

This book addresses key historical, scientific, legal, and philosophical issues surrounding euthanasia and assisted suicide in the United States as well as in other countries and cultures. • Addresses the

extended history of debates regarding the ethical justifiability of assisted suicide and euthanasia • Analyzes assisted suicide and euthanasia in many cultural, philosophical, and religious traditions • Provides an interdisciplinary perspective on the subject, including coverage of topics such as the depictions of assisted dying in popular culture, that enables a more complete understanding of the emotionally charged controversy surrounding this subject • Spotlights the latest medical and scientific developments in euthanasia and examines the role of technology in the ethical debates on assisted dying

No one really wants to die, or do they? From classical times to our post-modern era of medical high tech, societies have struggled with the thorny issue of euthanasia, and what it entails. Who shall be entitled to a "good death" and in what form shall it arrive? This book provides the reader with insight and enlightenment on the medical, philosophical, social, cultural and existential aspects of "good death" amid our digitized, individualized and ageing society, hampered by rising health care costs but unchained from one standardized level of care.

Death Rights is a collection of cutting-edge chapters on assisted dying and euthanasia, written by leading authors in the field. Providing an overview of current regulation on assisted dying and euthanasia, both in the UK and internationally, this book also addresses the associated debates on ethical, moral and rights issues. It considers whether, just as there is a right to life, there should also be a right to death, especially in the context of unbearable human suffering. The unintended consequences of prohibitions on assisted dying and euthanasia are explored, and the argument put forward that knowing one can choose when and how one dies can be life-extending, rather than life-limiting. Key critiques from feminist and disability studies are addressed. The overarching theme of the collection is that death is an embodied right which we should be entitled to exercise, with appropriate safeguards, as and when we choose. Making a novel contribution to the debate on assisted dying, this interdisciplinary book will appeal to those with relevant interests in law, socio-legal studies, applied ethics, medical ethics, politics, philosophy, and sociology.

Issues of death and dying - particularly concerning euthanasia, assisted suicide and dying with dignity - have taken a new prominence in the minds of people today. Meanwhile, the Catholic Church has, by and large, abstained from participating in the debate beyond condemning all taking of innocent life as gravely immoral.

Focuses on the arguments, for and against euthanasia, and the philosophical, political and cross-cultural contexts of this age-old dilemma. Included are case studies of patients and their families who are faced with these harrowing decisions at the end of life, as well as the opinions of the professionals who deal with human suffering daily.

The Philosophy of Death is a discussion of the basic philosophical issues concerning death, and a critical introduction to the relevant contemporary philosophical literature. Luper begins by addressing questions about those who die: What is it to be alive? What does it mean for you and me to exist? Under what conditions do we persist over time, and when do we perish? Next, he considers several questions concerning death, including: What does dying consist in; in particular, how does it differ from ageing? Must death be permanent? By what signs may it be identified? Is death bad for the one who dies? If so why? Finally he discusses whether, and why, killing is morally objectionable, and suggests that it is often permissible; in particular, (assisted) suicide, euthanasia and abortion may all be morally permissible. His book is a lively and engaging philosophical treatment of a perennially fascinating and relevant subject.

Examines the issue of physician-assisted suicide in several articles from a variety of perspectives.

"An excellent volume, which will be useful to both professional philosophers and students."-Ethics

Demonstrates how U.S. attitudes and practices concerning euthanasia have been influenced by the historical development of rights within the western world.

This book describes the way assisted death -- physician-assisted suicide and/or voluntary euthanasia - functions in the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and the state of Oregon - and states the lessons that can be drawn from this experience.

The Right to Die? challenges us to accept that there is no disgrace in human mortality, that human dignity can be cared for and respected in the midst of life's worst experiences. Mark suggests that Christians must become proactive in providing alternatives to assisted suicide and euthanasia while offering at least three promises to the terminally ill person: to the best of our ability, we will not allow you to die in pain; we will not allow you to die alone; you will not be a burden to anyone.

Doctor-assisted suicide is legal in Oregon, Washington, Colorado, California, Washington D.C., and Vermont. As of January 2016, 991 patients have died by taking legally-backed drugs under supervision in Oregon according to CNN. This timely edition examines issues surrounding the right to die. The book takes a critical look at topics such as euthanasia, assisted suicide, the refusal of medical treatment, and life-sustaining treatment.

In this book the author makes a case for legalized physician-assisted dying. Using the latest data from Oregon and the Netherlands, he puts a new slant on perennial debate topics such as "slippery slopes," "the integrity of medicine," and "sanctity of life." This book provides an in-depth look at how we die in America today. It examines the shortcomings of our end-of-life system. You will learn about terminal torture in hospital ICUs and about the alternatives: hospice and palliative care. The author scrutinizes the good, the bad, and the ugly. He provides a critique of the practice of palliative sedation. The book makes a strong case that assisted dying complements hospice. By providing both, Oregon now has the best palliative-care system in America. This book, above all, may help you or someone you care about navigate this strange landscape we call "end of life." It can be an informed guide to "a good death" in the age of hospice and high-tech medical intervention.

A riveting, incisive, and wide-ranging book about the Right to Die movement, and the doctors, patients, and activists at the heart of this increasingly urgent issue. More states and countries are passing right-to-die laws that allow the sick and suffering to end their lives at pre-planned moments, with the help of physicians. But even where these laws exist, they leave many people behind. The Inevitable moves beyond margins of the law to the people who are meticulously planning their final hours—far from medical offices, legislative chambers, hospital ethics committees, and polite conversation. It also shines a light on the people who help them: loved ones and, sometimes, clandestine groups on the Internet that together form the “euthanasia underground.” Katie Engelhart, a veteran journalist, focuses on six people representing different aspects of the right to die debate. Two are doctors: a California physician who runs a boutique assisted death clinic and has written more lethal prescriptions than anyone else in the U.S.; an Australian named Philip Nitschke who lost his medical license for teaching people how to end their lives painlessly and peacefully at “DIY Death” workshops. The other four chapters belong to people who said they wanted to die because they were suffering unbearably—of old age, chronic illness, dementia, and mental anguish—and saw suicide as their only option. Spanning North America, Europe, and Australia, The Inevitable offers a deeply reported and fearless look at a morally tangled subject. It introduces readers to ordinary people who are fighting to find dignity and authenticity in the final hours of their lives.

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