

Fall, 1983

Phil 2103 Ethical Issues

B. Cupples (C209)

Week of:

Reading

Sept.

12-16 Experimentation with Human Subjects; Handouts, some background, and some terminology
19-23 Handouts; Text, p. 503-545
26-30 Experimentation involving children; Handouts, and Text, p. 546-567.

Oct.

3-7 Finish up experimentation
10-14 (10th thanksgiving) One hour test, Wed. Oct. 12
17-21 Euthanasia: Text: p. 307-378
24-28 Euthanasia, continued, and a film.
Student project assigned
31-Nov 4 Abortion. Text, p. 215-250

Nov.

7-11 (11th Remembrance day) Abortion, continued
14-18 One Hour test, Mon Nov. 14. The definition of death, text, p. 269-292.
21-25 Codes and Patient's Rights, Text p. 117-132
Disclosure of information, Text, p. 169-214
28-Dec. 2 (Project due, Canadian legal cases on Informed Consent
Nov. 28)
Dec. 5- 7 Legal cases.

Final exam during the examination period.

Grades: -Two one-hour essay-type tests, 20% each.
-One project, as assigned, 20%
-Final exam, 40%. Letter grades assigned.

Office Hours: MWF 9:00-11:30,12:30-1:30, T-Th by arrangement

Class Text: Beauchamp & Walters, Contemporary Issues in Bioethics (2nd Edition)

Detailed Reading List for Ethical Issues Course

Text used: Beauchamp and Walters, Contemporary Issues in Bioethics (2nd Ed.)

References below to this book are cited as 'B&W', and page numbers refer to this text as well.

In addition, I had xerox handouts of articles, which are listed below; anything not indexed to 'B&W' is a handout. I have not taken the time to provide complete bibliographical information- most of the items are well known.

Week 1. Experimentation with Human Beings

- a. Jewish Chronic Disease Hospital case- from Jay Katz
- b. Beecher article- NEJM 1966
- c. Halushka v. University of Saskatchewan; torts of battery and negligence

Week 2. Experimentation continued

- a. (B&W) pp. 503-545
- b. U.S. Code of Federal Regulations; definition of Informed Consent in experimental context.

Week 3. Experimentation with special populations

- a. (B&W) pp. 546-567
- b. Ramsey on Willowbrook
- c. Medical Research Council of Canada, publication on ethics of experimentation
- d. Social science experiments done without consent- Milgram

Week 4. Euthanasia and withholding treatment

- a. (B&W) pp. 307-378

Weeks 5 and 6. Continue Euthanasia and withholding treatment

- a. Film- 'A Small Imperfection'- from CAMR at York Univ. Film now retired to archives and not available- account of Lorber and his policy for withholding treatment in cases of Spina Bifida, discovery of Alpha-Feto protein.
- b. Test- 1 hour
- c. 'Baby Doe' case in the U.S.- Reagan Hotline- report of article in Hastings Center Report on this, by George Annas, I think.
- d. Quinlan decisions, both lower and appellate courts.
- e. Duff and Campbell papers; Robertson on withholding treatment.
- f. Project assigned: critical review of Law Reform Commission of Canada, Working Paper 28: 'Euthanasia, Aiding Suicide, and Cessation of Treatment'. Commission supplied me with enough copies to distribute to the students.

Week 7. Abortion

- a. (B&W)pp. 215-250
- b. Relevant section from Criminal Code of Canada

Week 8. The Definition of Death

- a. (B&W) pp. 269-292
- b. Law Reform Commission, Report 15. Criteria for the Determination of Death.
- c. Seattle Swedish Hospital Case- selecting people for use of dialysis equipment, in U.S.

Week 9. Patients' Rights and Codes of Ethics

- a. (B&W) pp. 117-132
- b. Disclosure of information- (B&W) pp. 169-214
(The book lacks a little here; has just 2 pages from the lengthy case of Canterbury v. Spence- I provide the complete case.)

Week 10. Informed Consent

- a. One Hour test
- b. Canterbury v. Spence
- c. Katz- complete article-'Informed Consent-A Fairy Tale?'

Week 11. Informed Consent (Canada)

- a. Reibl v. Hughes- Laskins 1980 judgment, Supreme Court of Canada
-standard of disclosure, battery or negligence?
- b. Hopp v. Lepp- scope of the duty to disclose.

Week 12. Finish the above. Final exam, Papers returned.

Various other papers were distributed whenever students raised questions that required clarification, and I could put my finger on a relevant article.