

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

PHL 442/542

POLICY ISSUES IN BIOETHICS

Spring, 1993

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Office Hours: I'm in most days from 9:30 -3:00, later on Wednesdays. Feel free to drop in, or to be certain to get me, call first for an appointment.

Policy issues in bioethics includes questions of institutional organization and practice, and the assignment of roles and responsibilities. Readings and discussion will cover such topics as the place of government and the law in the health care system, problems of financing, the allocation of resources, and experimentation. The course will include a component of readings on controversial issues and an examination of particular cases. We will examine current as well as emerging policy issues.

Grading policy: Grading is in accordance with CSU policy. Ethics in health care is both a matter of individual knowledge of societal moral norms, and commitment to conducting one's professional life in accord with those norms and the ethical standards and values of one's profession. Ethics is an active, and not merely an academic enterprise. It is about interaction amongst individuals and institutions. Therefore, I do not grade by tests of factual knowledge; I grade on class participation (50%) and a final collaborative project (50%). The purpose of the final collaborative project is to assess your ability to combine abstract concepts and ideas, to apply them to real societal policy problems in an environment that requires working collaboratively and productively with others.

Wednesday Assignment

- March 31** **Intro & Overview.**
Surrogate Parenting: The ethical issues from feminist perspectives. Read: Ketchum article, read Malm article.
- April 6** **Surrogate Parenting: The ethical Issues from a duty perspective. Read Nelson & Nelson article.**
In Class: draft a surrogate parenting policy for Ohio.
Include provisions related to avoiding exploitation of minority women surrogates.
- 13** **Topic: Policy issues (legal and ethical) raised by mandatory testing or health care providers for the HIV virus. Read: Emanuel article.**

- 20** **Topic: The moral foundations of public policies related to mental disability health care; modifying the Patient Self-Determination Act for mentally ill persons. Read: Brown article and Waithe (a). Look through Ohio Medical Association/Ohio State Bar Association pamphlet on PSDA. [Students who have not taken Moral Reasoning course should also read Waithe (b) article.] Required Request policies. Read Ohio's Required Request Law... In class: draft a policy for implementing the provisions of the PSDA to meet the needs of disabled persons, taking in to account the Required Request Law.**
TURN IN PROSPECTUS FOR FINAL PAPER
- 27** **"Designer Genes," Eugenics and the NIH Human Genome Project. Read: Sinsheimer article, Anderson article.**
- May 5** **Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia. Thomasma, Ch. 2, "Justified & Unjustified Euthanasia" (p. 16-49) and Ch.5 "Euthanasia & the Medical Community," (p. 118-157). In Class: What if Dr. Kevorkian bought the house next door? Draft an assisted suicide policy for Ohio.**
- 12** **The "War on Drugs": should drug rehabilitation therapy be mandatory and should the government pay for it? Read: Ten Have & Sporken article, Dougherty article, Hadorn article. In class: Draft a policy for control of crack cocaine in northeast Ohio that includes therapeutic interventions for crack users, and addresses ethical/legal issues of mandatory therapy.**
- May 19, 26, & June 2: Presentations of final papers.**

Bibliography:

Materials available for photocopying at reserve desk in CSU's main library, as well as in the Strongsville Public Library as one packet under title: Policy Issues in Bioethics Course Materials.

Anderson, W. French. "Human Gene Therapy: Why Draw a Line" Journal of Medicine & Philosophy 14(6), 681-693, Dec 89.

Brown, Robert, "Physical Illness & Mental Health," Philosophy & Public Affairs: 7, Fall '77, p. 17-38.

Dougherty, C. "Setting Health Care Priorities: Oregon's Next Steps," Hastings Center Report 21(3) May-June, 91 (supplement pp 1-10).

Emanuel, Ezekiel. "Do Physicians have an Obligation to treat Patients with AIDS?" New England Journal of Medicine 6/23/88: 1686-1690.

Hadorn, David: "The Oregon Priority-Setting Exercise: Quality of Life and Public Policy," Hastings Center Report 21(3) May-June 91 (Supplement, pp. 11-16.)

Ketchum, Sara Ann, "Selling Babies & Selling Bodies," Hypatia 4 (3) ,116- 127, Fall, 89.

Malm, HM, "Commodification or Compensation: A Reply to Ketchum." Hypatia 4(3) 128-135, Fall, 89.

Nelson, H & Nelson, J. "Cutting Motherhood in Two: Some Suspicions concerning Surrogacy," Hypatia 4(3) 85-94, Fall, 89.

Ohio Department of Health. Ohio's Required Request Law: Its implementation and impact on organ donation and transplantation in Ohio.

Sinsheimer, R. "Whither the Genome Project?" Hastings Center Report 20 (4), 5 JI-Ag 90.

Ten Have, Henk and Sporken, Paul. "Heroin Addiction, Ethics and Philosophy of Medicine." Journal of Medical Ethics, 11, 173-177, Dec, '85.

Thomasma, David. Euthanasia: Toward an Ethical Social Policy. NY: Continuum Press (1990) (excerpts)

Waithe (a) "Why Mill was for Paternalism," Journal of Psychiatry & Law.

Waithe (b) "Summary of Moral Theories: Condensed Cream of Ethics Soup."

Ohio State Medical Association. "Personal Health Care Decisions."

Ohio State Medical Association. "Durable Power of Attorney."

Ohio State Medical Association. "Ohio's Living Will."