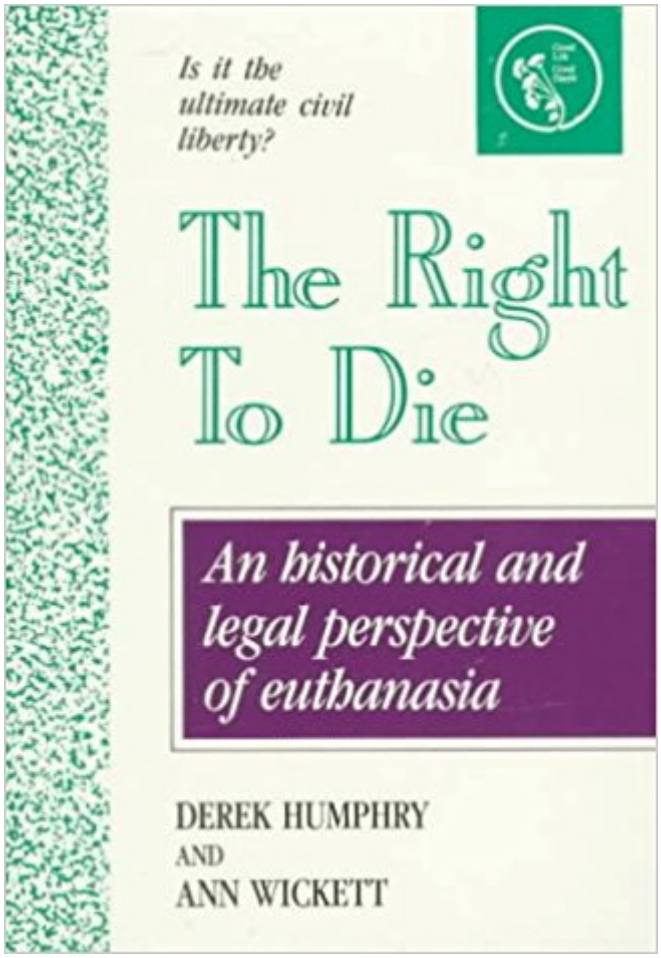
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The Right To Die: Understanding Euthanasia



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Synopsis

Includes bibliographical references (p. 313-358) and index

Book Information

Paperback: 372 pages

Publisher: Natl Hemlock Society (June 1991)

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Customer Reviews

Authors Humphrey and Wickett, members of the Hemlock Society, discuss euthanasia from an historical perspective and as a practice in modern society. Focusing primarily on the problems created by increased medical technology and by doctors' basic commitment to preserving life, they consider the legal, religious, and ethical issues involved when patients choose to forgo, or families and health professionals choose to withhold or withdraw, life-supporting or life-extending treatment. They also consider active euthanasia (directly inducing death), citing cases to illustrate the ethical and legal issues involved. Although their work seems unnecessarily long and is biased in favor of euthanasia without support of sustained argument, it will be useful in medical ethics courses, as will Lynn's By No Extraordinary Means. The readings in this book deal specifically with the issue of whether to provide life-sustaining food or water to certain patients: the terminally ill, the irreversibly unconscious, severely handicapped new-borns, etc. The essays range from a description of the medical procedures used to provide such care or treatment and the relative pain and risk associated with each to the religious, ethical, and legal ramifications of providing or not providing sustenance. While the essays are of uneven quality, the book nevertheless is informative and readers should appreciate its overall content, especially the case study in the final chapter. Bonnie Hoffman, North Fork Counseling Service, Mattituck, Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I found this book very interesting and I am sure it was a painstaking job to publish such a controversial ideology. I recommend the book to our religious leaders, our health-care providers, and legislative branch of the government to familiarize themselves with such a devastating issue that every human society has been suffering from. It is about the time that we the humans shouldn't allow our elders to be afflicted by degrading agony and pain during their final days, in some cases final years of their life. Dignity shouldn't be limited to LIFE, every human and animal as well deserve death with dignity too.

This is a must read as part of one's continued education. Death is so much apart of life and living, we need to know our choices and be prepared.

This is a history of euthanasia from ancient Greek and Romans times right up through the centuries to modern times. This book went on to be a standard history book in the Spanish language in hardback and paperback, and also published in Germany and England. It's not available new but there are plenty of copies in 's used book section.----------Derek Humphry, co-author. [....] 10.05.2013

This book covers the whole story of euthanasia fromclassical times up to today. The background on religiousattitudes, legal struggles, and organizational progress. Well indexed so that a reader can use it as a quick reference book.

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