

Death By Choice

A successful young lawyer in Wellington, Lecretia Seales met and fell in love with Matt Vickers in 2003. In *Lecretia's Choice*, Matt tells the story of their life together, and how it changed when his proud, fiercely independent wife was diagnosed with a brain tumour and forced to confront her own mortality. The death she faced—slow, painful, dependent—was completely at odds with how she had lived her life. Lecretia wanted to die with dignity, to be able to say goodbye well, and not to suffer unnecessarily—but the law denied her that choice. With her characteristic spirit, she decided to mount a challenge in New Zealand's High Court, but as the battle raged, Lecretia's strength faded. She died on 5 June 2015, at the age of forty-two, the day after her family learned that the court had ruled against her.

Lecretia's Choice is not only a moving love story but compulsory reading for everyone who cares about the dignity we afford terminally ill people who want to die on their own terms.

Encourages patients to become active participants in the process of fighting disease, and includes guidelines for medically-assisted suicide.

Having a good death is our final human right, argues Sandra Martin in this updated and expanded version of her bestselling and award-winning social history of the right to die movement in Canada and around the world. Winner of the BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, finalist for both the Donner Prize in Public Policy and the Dafoe Prize for History, *A Good Death* has a new chapter on Canada's Medical Assistance in Dying Law. The law allows mentally competent adults, who are suffering grievously from incurable conditions, to ask for a doctor's help in ending their lives. Does the law go far enough? No, says Martin. She delivers compelling stories about the patients the law ignores: people with life-crushing diseases who are condemned to suffer because their natural deaths are not reasonably foreseeable. With a clear analytical eye, she exposes the law's shortcomings and outlines constitutional challenges, including the presumed right of publicly-funded faith-based institutions to deny suffering patients a legal medical service. Martin argues that Canada can set an example for the world if it can strike a balance between compassion for the suffering and protection of the vulnerable, between individual choice and social responsibility. *A Good Death* asks the tough question none of us can avoid: How do you want to die? The answer will change your life—and your death. “ [An] excellent new book. . . .The timeliness is hard to overstate. ” —The Globe and Mail “ What truly distinguishes this book is the reportage on individuals and families who have fought to arrange for a better death. . . . These first-hand experiences are the beating heart of a timely and powerful examination. ” —2017 BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction Jury Citation

The pressing and universally relevant issue of euthanasia is debated in this volume. Euthanasia has become increasingly contentious as populations age, and medical and scientific advances continue to transform and extend life. *Euthanasia - Choice and Death* examines the key philosophical arguments that have underpinned thinking and practice up till now: the centrality of choice to our notion of the human being, and the challenge of changes to our concept of death in the face of medical, scientific and technological advances. Gail Tulloch develops a conception of dignity that does not depend on religious assumptions and can promote a broad ethical consensus in a liberal democracy. Examination of landmark cases and the approaches adopted by key countries - the U.S.A., the U.K., the Netherlands, and Australia - ground the book.

Your Final Choice

Saying Goodbye to Daniel

The Case for Palliative Care and Patient Choice

A Nursing Home Mystery

Death By Choice

Her Life, Her Death, Her Choice?

Culture of Death

A psychiatrist and world-famous authority on suicide offers a persuasive argument against legalizing assisted suicide in the United States. Dr. Hendin shows what can be done to find better options for those facing the final phase of life.

For nearly four decades, Derek Humphry has blazed a trail for the right to die movement. He founded the Hemlock Society, pioneered Oregon's Death with Dignity Act, and wrote the bestselling books *Final Exit* (more than one million copies sold, and a *New York Times* bestseller for eighteen weeks) and *Jean's Way* (UK bestseller). But before his wife's terminal illness ravaged his life, Humphry was a successful journalist. In *Good Life, Good Death*, readers will learn how the twists and turns of fate led him to his life's purpose. In his poignant memoir, Derek tells of his broken family, his wartime experiences as a boy in England, and rising to the highest rungs of journalism on two continents. In 1975, he lived with crippling fear and sadness when his beloved wife, Jean, was diagnosed with cancer. As the disease gradually spread, they both decided that rather than let a terminal illness run its course through extreme physical and emotional pain, Jean would end her own life on her own terms, at an agreed upon time and manner, arranging her own last days. Readers will witness the personal pain and emotional distress they endured, as well as the legal repercussions Derek faced following her death. As Humphry writes, “It would be far more preferable to legalize medically assisted suicide for terminally ill adults, for it is a tremendous strain and risk put on families.” To know why he has maintained this struggle for choice in dying, against powerful religious and political forces it is necessary to understand the whole man. In *Good Life, Good Death*, readers will appreciate the fight he has gone through so that others might consider the option of dying with dignity.

Does a competent person suffering from a terminal illness or enduring an otherwise burdensome existence, who considers his life no longer of value but is incapable of ending it, have a right to be helped to die? Should someone for whom further medical treatment would be futile be allowed to die regardless of expressing a preference to be given all possible treatment? These are some of the questions that are asked and answered in this wide-ranging discussion of both the morality of medically assisted death and the justifiability of making certain instances legal. A case is offered in support of the moral and legal permissibility of specified instances of medically assisted death, along with responses to the main objections that have been levelled against it. The philosophical argument is bolstered by empirical evidence from The

Netherlands and Oregon where voluntary euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide are already legal.

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.

Life or Death

Physician-Assisted Death in Perspective

Angels of Death

What Everyone Needs to Know

Death and Dignity

Doctors, Patients, and Assisted Suicide

Hastening Your Death when Terminally Ill

How the legalization of assisted dying is changing our lives. Over the past five years, medical aid-in-dying (also known as assisted suicide) has expanded rapidly in the United States and is now legally available to one in five Americans. This growing social and political movement heralds the possibility of a new era of choice in dying. Yet very little is publicly known about how medical aid-in-dying laws affect ordinary citizens once they are put into practice. Sociological studies of new health policies have repeatedly demonstrated that the realities often fall short of advocacy visions, raising questions about how much choice and control aid-in-dying actually affords. *Scripting Death* chronicles two years of ethnographic research documenting the implementation of Vermont's 2013 Patient Choice and Control at End of Life Act. Author Mara Buchbinder weaves together stories collected from patients, caregivers, health care providers, activists, and legislators to illustrate how they navigate aid-in-dying as a new medical frontier in the aftermath of legalization. *Scripting Death* explains how medical aid-in-dying works, what motivates people to pursue it, and ultimately, why upholding the "right to die" is very different from ensuring access to this life-ending procedure. This unprecedented, in-depth account uses the case of assisted death as an entry point into ongoing cultural conversations about the changing landscape of death and dying in the United States.

Physician-assisted death is now legal in six states, and is the subject of intense political and legal battles across the country. As our population ages, the debate continues. What are the main dividing lines in this debate? What are the principal ethical questions involved? Philosopher and ethicist L.W. Sumner equips readers with everything they need to know to take a reasoned and informed position on these and similar questions. He provides much-needed context by situating physician-assisted death within the wider framework of end-of-life care, and explains why the movement to legalize it now enjoys such strong public support by reviewing the movement's successes to date, beginning in Oregon in 1994 and now extending to twelve jurisdictions across three continents. By providing an overview of the main ethical and legal arguments on both sides, Sumner provides a clear and accessible explanation of why we have yet to resolve the controversy. Lastly, he considers the future political and judicial actions that are necessary for broader reform of end-of-life care. All those who care about how we handle end-of-life dilemmas will benefit from Sumner's deeply informed expertise on this important issue. -- Provided by publisher.

Many people who are experiencing unacceptable suffering or deterioration in the present, or who fear them in the near future, do not know their full range of options to hasten death. This is particularly true if they live in jurisdictions that do not allow a physician assisted death - over forty jurisdictions in the U.S. and most countries across the world. Though VSED is readily available, and not illegal, most people are unaware of it as an option. The information in this book is vital to those considering their options either hypothetically or in real time, providing an integrated, balanced, and nuanced exploration of VSED with contributions from legal, medical, and ethical experts. A story that unashamedly promotes death with dignity, currently practiced overseas but not widely in Australia. A nursing home in a rural town. Residents are inexplicably dying earlier than expected, much to the concern of Twilight's Board. Who is behind these mysterious deaths? And why? How will they be held to account? And when will the Australian public be given a voice in this crucial issue of end-of-life choice and empowerment.

Japanese Culture and Choice at the End of Life

Must We Suffer Our Way to Death?

Physician-Assisted Death

A Matter of Choice?

Causing Death and Saving Lives
How Testing and Choice are Undermining Education
Death with Dignity

In this volume, a distinguished group of physicians, ethicists, lawyers, and activists come together to present the case for the legalization of physician-assisted dying, for terminally ill patients who voluntarily request it. To counter the arguments and assumptions of those opposed to legalization of assisted suicide, the contributors examine ethical arguments concerning self-determination and the relief of suffering; analyze empirical data from Oregon and the Netherlands; describe their personal experiences as physicians, family members, and patients; assess the legal and ethical responsibilities of the physician; and discuss the role of pain, depression, faith, and dignity in this decision. Together, the essays in this volume present strong arguments for the ethical acceptance and legal recognition of the practice of physician-assisted dying as a last resort -- not as an alternative to excellent palliative care but as an important possibility for patients who seek it.

This book is the first comprehensive report and analysis of the Dutch euthanasia experience over the last three decades. In contrast to most books about euthanasia, which are written by authors from countries where the practice is illegal and therefore practised only secretly, this book analyzes empirical data and real-life clinical behavior. Its essays were written by the leading Dutch scholars and clinicians who shaped euthanasia policy and who have studied, evaluated and helped regulate it. Some of them have themselves practised euthanasia. The book will contribute to the world literature on physician-assisted death by providing a comprehensive examination of how euthanasia has been practised and how it has evolved in one specific national and cultural context. It will greatly advance the understanding of euthanasia among both advocates and opponents of the practice.

Thomas has financial problems and wants to escape to his home in France. Jacqueline has been diagnosed with a terminal illness and desires Euthanasia. Brigitte, Jacqueline's best friend, has recently become the other woman in Thomas's life. In the event of Jacqueline's death, Thomas stands to receive a substantial payout, enough to pay an undesirable debt and return to his home country of France. Jacqueline wants assisted suicide, but Thomas is reluctant knowing that this will void the policy leaving him broke and facing prosecution for murder. Brigitte is wealthy enough to take what she wants and not care. She wants Thomas to agree to Jacqueline's request so that they can be together. Thomas's world is spiraling out of control. Can he murder his former love? Although overwhelmed by conflicting interests, this is an emotion charged story about the subject of Euthanasia and one woman's fight to end her life, her way.

A understandable overview of the laws regarding euthanasia, end-of-life treatment, and medication of those who may be unable to decide for themselves if the treatment is necessary. Our bodies are ours to control, free from state interference — or so it appears. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms provides: “ Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice. ” But, how absolute is this? Do parents have the final decision in determining the medical care of their children, even if that choice may mean death? May children override the choices of their parents as to medical care? What role, if any, does the state (or the courts) have in reviewing individual medical choices, even if those choices are made by an adult but could result in death? Can physicians insist that their patients must have certain medical treatments? Do the terminally ill have the right to ask for assistance in dying? These are among the questions upon which Canadian judges must rule. When and how they reach decisions are explored in *Life or Death: A Matter of Choice?*

Seasons of Loss and Renewal After a Father's Decision to Die

A Good Death

Making Choices and Taking Charge

Good Life, Good Death

Improving Care at the End of Life

Scripting Death

Stories of Assisted Dying in America

Your Final Choice is not a how-to book, but a how-to-think-about book, on a controversial and emotional topic: hastening your death when terminally ill. I have now read this book twice, each time at a single sitting! It provides an easily accessible framework for consideration of the issues around the end of life and language for expressing and justifying personal choices, whatever they may be. I wish all my patients had it and talked to their families about it. - Dr Lindi Jeffree Brisbane Neurosurgeon & Brain Cancer Specialist This is a comprehensive review of choices to be considered when making decisions about "'~end-of-life' matters before incompetence. All sides of the many views, issues and difficulties are canvassed in a readable and non-judgemental manner. It is a critical guide to the making of hard yet necessary plans for a good and dignified death. - Dr Ruth Webber Sociologist and author If, as is likely, physician assisted dying becomes legal, terminally ill patients will still have to make a choice to euthanase or not, based on their own preferences and circumstances. This book will help ensure the choice is informed. - Kenneth Davidson, DWDV Ambassador. Read the full review here: <http://www.dwdv.org.au/resources/book-reviews> Kenneth Ralph runs a private counselling practice in Geelong, Victoria. He trained in philosophy at Otago (New Zealand), religion at Princeton (USA) and psychotherapy in Melbourne (Australia). He has conducted a variety of human relations programs in schools, businesses, churches, prisons and community organisations. His previous book *Yes I Get Depressed* was a No 1 best-seller in Geelong. Married to social worker wife Alison, they have two sons and four grandchildren.

Issues surrounding the end of life, and in particular questions of patient choice, have seldom been so high on the legal, ethical and political agenda. This book examines these issues from a comparative perspective, drawing conclusions about the role of the doctor, the individual and the law-makers in this moral minefield.

The moral problems of abortion, infanticide, suicide, euthanasia, capital punishment, war and other life-or-death choices.

Daniel is twenty-one years old. He is entering his senior year in college as a pre-med student when he has a tragic diving accident, rendering him a quadriplegic. Though critical care can keep him alive, doctors are unable to stop the continuing deterioration of his condition. He is ventilator dependent, has frequent cardiac arrests, blood clots, fevers, and severe medical problems. Slowly, day by day, Daniel loses more and more ground. He eventually learns that he will never be able to eat or drink, never be able to speak, never be off the ventilator. With the help and support of his family, Daniel decides to remove the ventilator, thus quickly and effectively ending his life. *Saying Goodbye to Daniel* is the heartrending account of the final two and a half months in the life of Daniel Rothman, told with beautiful simplicity by his mother. As a social worker and philosopher specializing in terminal care issues, Juliet Rothman had for many years been preparing herself unwittingly for the hardest choice a parent can ever offer a child. *Saying Goodbye to Daniel* is many things. It is a harrowing story of how one family faced the ongoing tragedy of months of hospitalization and acute medical care. It is the moving case study of a young man's death with dignity. It is also a compassionate guidebook that includes an update on how the family coped with the loss of their son and brother, emotionally and spiritually, two years after his death; Juliet's reflections on terminating-care decisions based on her professional and practical experience; and a list of resources dealing with spinal cord injury, loss of a child, grief and bereavement, and advance directives and patient's rights.

Preemptive Suicide in Advanced Age

Euthanasia: All That Matters

Where, What, and Who in Choices in Dying

Death by Choice

A Compassionate, Widely-Available Option for Hastening Death

Your Right to Comfort, Calm, and Choice in the Last Days of Life

Twilight

The first contemporary study of assisted death to integrate insights from ethics, theology, philosophy, medicine, law, and sociology, this book provides a broad framework within which to weigh arguments for and against the practices of assisted suicide and euthanasia as public policy in the United States. This collection of essays balances analysis of the cultural factors driving an increased interest in assisted death in Part One with intense, personal responses from mainline Judeo-Christian theologians in Part Two. The multidisciplinary authors in Part One wrestle with the legitimate ends and limits of medicine and the appropriate role of law, philosophy, and theology in forming public policy in a pluralistic society. In response, the theologians in Part Two struggle to find a balance among the religious values of justice, mercy, freedom, and responsibility in the lives of people confronted by terminal illness or intractable pain and suffering.

The Good Euthanasia Guide (eBook): Where, What, and Who in Choices in Dying. By Derek Humphry. 9780963728043. Updated 2008 edition of this unique euthanasia desk reference book for those who wish to know more about common sense choices in dying at the end of life. A companion book to the New York Times bestselling 'how-to-do-it-yourself' "Final Exit". Available at <http://www.finalexit.org/ergo-store/>

Knowing our rights to refuse treatment, and ways to bring death earlier if pain or distress cannot be alleviated, will spare us the frightening helplessness that can rob our last days of meaning and personal connection. Drs. Wanzer and Glenmullen clarify what patients should insist of their doctors, including the right to enough pain medication even if it shortens life. Everyone needs their wise and comforting advice.

Yoshio Kita's hopelessness and lack of faith in his future crystallizes into a decision to commit suicide by what he calls 'capital punishment at free will', meaning his only pressing problem now is how to spend both his remaining self-allocated seven days on earth and all his worldly money. From fine dining with a former porn actress to insuring his life, from pursuing an ex-girlfriend to an entanglement with an assassin, Yoshio's last seven days on earth take on unexpected twists and turns in this darkly comic exploration of the cult of suicide in Japan and the culture that has created it.

Lecretia's Choice

The Moral Problems of Abortion, Infanticide, Suicide, Euthanasia, Capital Punishment, War and Other Life-or-death Choices

Assessing the Dutch Experience

Approaching Death

The Case for Choice

Voluntarily Stopping Eating and Drinking

Final Acts

Discusses how school choice, misapplied standards of accountability, the No Child Left Behind mandate, and the use of a corporate model have all led to a decline in public education and presents arguments for a return to strong neighborhood schools and quality teaching.

"Grounded in ethnographic data, the book offers an examination of how policy and meaning frame the choices Japanese make about how to die. As an essay in descriptive bioethics, it engages an extensive literature in the social sciences and bioethics to examine some of the answers people have constructed to end-of-life issues. Like their counterparts in other

postindustrial societies, Japanese find no simple way of handling situations such as disclosure of diagnosis, discontinuing or withholding treatment, organ donation, euthanasia, and hospice. Through interviews and case studies in hospitals and homes, Susan Orpett Long offers a window on the ways in which "ordinary" people respond to serious illness and the process of dying."--BOOK JACKET.

New technologies and medical treatments continue to complicate questions surrounding the moment of death. Distinguished bioethicists Robert M. Veatch and Lainie F. Ross argue that the definition of death is a social question rooted in a person's religious, philosophical, or social beliefs. While ceding that society needs a default definition to proceed in certain cases, the authors state that any decision-making process must allow individuals to make their own choices according to their personal beliefs.

The Dignitas clinic in Switzerland may be a long way away. But the issues around euthanasia can suddenly become very close to home. To many, it seems remarkable that in a society where freedom of choice is eulogised, thousands of people find that there is one last choice that they are not free to make. But as this book will show, euthanasia is an issue at the intersection of new technology, old laws, and timeless ethical quandaries, so that even apparently clear-cut cases have many contradictions. Drawing on the latest research and cases from around the world, Richard Huxtable drills deep into the key issues around euthanasia. His is a new, balanced look at an important issue, and it will appeal to lawyers, medical students and - most importantly - those who find themselves or their relatives faced with end of life dilemmas.

Physician-Assisted Dying

Seduced by Death

Physician-assisted Death

Final Days

Medically Assisted Death

The Age of Do Harm Medicine

Jacqueline

New technologies and medical treatments have complicated questions such as how to determine the moment when someone has died. The result is a failure to establish consensus on the definition of death and the criteria by which the moment of death is determined. This creates confusion and disagreement not only among medical, legal, and insurance professionals but also within families faced with difficult decisions concerning their loved ones. Distinguished bioethicists Robert M. Veatch and Lainie F. Ross argue that the definition of death is not a scientific question but a social one rooted in religious, philosophical, and social beliefs. Drawing on history and recent court cases, the authors detail three potential definitions of death — the whole-brain concept; the circulatory, or somatic, concept; and the higher-brain concept. Because no one definition of death commands majority support, it creates a major public policy problem. The authors cede that society needs a default definition to proceed in certain cases, like those involving organ transplantation. But they also argue the decision-making process must give individuals the space to choose among plausible definitions of death according to personal beliefs. Taken in part from the authors' latest edition of their groundbreaking work on transplantation ethics, *Defining Death* is an indispensable guide for professionals in medicine, law, insurance, public policy, theology, and philosophy as well as lay people trying to decide when they want to be treated as dead.

Physician-Assisted Death is the eleventh volume of *Biomedical Ethics Reviews*. We, the editors, are pleased with the response to the series over the years and, as a result, are happy to continue into a second decade with the same general purpose and zeal. As in the past, contributors to projected volumes have been asked to summarize the nature of the literature, the prevailing attitudes and arguments, and then to advance the discussion in some way by staking out and arguing forcefully for some basic position on the topic targeted for discussion. For the present volume on *Physician-Assisted Death*, we felt it wise to enlist the services of a guest editor, Dr. Gregg A. Kasting, a practicing physician with extensive clinical knowledge of the various problems and issues encountered in discussing physician assisted death. Dr. Kasting is also our student and just completing a graduate degree in philosophy with a specialty in biomedical ethics here at Georgia State University. Apart from a keen interest in the topic, Dr. Kasting has published good work in the area and has, in our opinion, done an excellent job in taking on the lion's share of editing this well-balanced and probing set of essays. We hope you will agree that this volume significantly advances the level of discussion on physician-assisted euthanasia. Incidentally, we wish to note that the essays in this volume were all finished and committed to press by January 1993.

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.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A powerful memoir of a love that leads two people to find a courageous way to part—and a woman's struggle to go forward in the face of loss—that “enriches the reader's life with urgency and gratitude” (The Washington Post) “A pleasure to read . . . Rarely has a memoir about death been so full of life. . . . Bloom has a talent for mixing the prosaic and profound, the slapstick and the serious.” —USA Today **ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR:** Publishers Weekly **ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR:** The New York Times Book Review, Time, Entertainment Weekly, NPR, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, USA Today, Real Simple, Prospect (UK), She Reads, Kirkus Reviews Amy Bloom began to notice changes in her husband, Brian: He retired early from a new job he loved; he withdrew from close friendships; he talked mostly about the past. Suddenly, it seemed there was a glass wall between them, and their long walks and talks stopped. Their world was altered forever when an MRI confirmed what they could no longer ignore: Brian had Alzheimer's disease. Forced to confront the truth of the diagnosis and its impact on the future he had envisioned, Brian was determined to die on his feet, not live on his knees. Supporting each other in their last journey together, Brian and Amy made the unimaginably difficult and painful decision to go to Dignitas, an organization based in Switzerland that empowers a person to end their own life with dignity and peace. In this heartbreaking and surprising memoir, Bloom sheds light on a part of life we so often shy away from discussing—its ending. Written in Bloom's captivating, insightful voice and with her trademark wit and candor, *In Love* is an unforgettable portrait of a beautiful marriage, and a boundary-defying love.

The Memoir of a Right to Die Pioneer

Death, Dying, and the Law

The Case for Legalizing Physician-assisted Dying and Euthanasia

The Last Choice

Euthanasia, Choice and Death

Death by Choice Versus Religious Dogma

When Death is the Best Choice

When his teenage son Christopher, brain-damaged in an auto accident, developed a 105-degree fever following weeks of unconsciousness, John Campbell asked the attending physician for help. The doctor refused. Why bother? The boy's life was effectively over. Campbell refused to accept this verdict. He demanded treatment and threatened legal action. The doctor finally relented. With treatment, Christopher's temperature—which had eventually reached 107.6 degrees—subsided almost immediately. Soon afterward the boy regained consciousness and was learning to walk again. This story is one of many Wesley J. Smith recounts in his award-winning classic critique of the modern bioethics movement, *Culture of Death*. In this newly updated edition, Smith chronicles how the threats to the equality of human life have accelerated in recent years, from the proliferation of euthanasia and the Brittany Maynard assisted suicide firestorm, to the potential for “death panels” posed by Obamacare and the explosive Terri Schiavo controversy. *Culture of Death* reveals how more and more doctors have withdrawn from the Hippocratic Oath and how “bioethicists” influence policy by posing questions such as whether organs may be harvested from the terminally ill and disabled. This is a passionate yet coolly reasoned book about the current crisis in medical ethics by an author who has made “the new thanatology” his consuming interest.

By CreateSpace: As we move into the twenty-first century, the dynamics of the debate on euthanasia and assisted suicide have shifted from the "power and influence" to the "power and control." The religious industry is determined to dictate to everyone to live and die according to their dogmas and it is in everyone's best interest that we do not allow human rights and freedom of choice to be trampled on by pontificators. As such, this is a call to action by the silent majority against the vocal religious ultra-conservative minority that is dictating its non-secular ideology on everyone else. Hani Montan's latest demands to be heard—and requires that the majority seize control of their lives by controlling the ways and means of their deaths. The action needed is: first, is for the silent majority to shed its apathy and weed out through the ballot box and active campaigning the undemocratic and non-secular politicians who place God ahead of the country and the majority of its citizens. Too many unprincipled politicians' prime objective is just to survive in politics and they are a blot on democracy. Second, expose and boycott any religious establishment that is actively engaged in anti-euthanasia and anti-assisted suicide campaign because they are violating human rights and individuals' freedom of choice. It is the expectation in a democratic and secular society where religion and state are separate that the imposition of religious ideals on everyone is not acceptable. As a result, religious dogmas should not be allowed to control people's lives and religious leaders should have no undue influence on the social and political agendas of a democracy which, by definition, entitles people to have their own beliefs. Included in this should be the prerogative to choose the way they want to die. People who are in pain but believe in the sanctity of life and that the earthly suffering is good for their soul and want to exist till their last breath should be entitled to their beliefs. Others who want to prolong their life by few more days or months with palliative care and by taking heavy doses of tranquilizing drugs should also be entitled to do so. These death choices need to also extend their privileges to non-believers, to believers of science and the concept of evolution, and other terminally ill people who prefer euthanasia or assisted suicide as methods for terminating their lives that have become a misery. These people are equally entitled to their beliefs and deserve to have their human rights and freedom of choice respected. Containing many unique features, Montan's treatise gives such useful information as: samples to assist the readers in the preparation of their own legally binding "Advance Health Directive" which is now acceptable in many Western countries; a suggested updated version of the Hippocratic Oath to accommodate the subject of euthanasia and assisted suicide; and a general guide on methods and pro-euthanasia

organizations specializing in the practice or advice on euthanasia and assisted suicide. A deeply thoughtful, expansive view on the rights of the dying, *Death by Choice versus Religious Dogma* is a book for everyone who is facing lingering death now and those who will be in similar predicament later. Euthanasia and assisted suicide is not only about the intolerance to pain or being a burden on the loved ones or the fear of dying without dignity, it is also about the loss of autonomy, loss of the ability to engage in activities that make life enjoyable, and the loss of control of bodily functions.

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."

For those who yearn for some measure of control over death *Final Acts*, offers insight and hope. Writing in a style free of technical jargon, the contributors discuss documents that should be prepared (health proxy, do-not-resuscitate order, living will, power of attorney); decision-making (over medical interventions, life support, hospice and palliative care, aid-in-dying, treatment location, speaking for those who can no longer express their will); and the roles played by religion, custom, family, friends, caretakers, money, the medical establishment, and the government.

Death, Dying, and the Choices We Make

The Good Euthanasia Guide

In Love

A Memoir of Love and Loss

The Death and Life of the Great American School System

Cultural and Theological Perspectives on Death by Choice

The Choice

The Last Choice establishes that preemptive suicide in advanced age can be rational: that it can make good sense to evade age-related personal diminishment even at the cost of good time left. Criteria are provided to help determine whether soundly reasoned, cogently motivated, and prudently timed self-destruction can be in one's interests late in life. In our time suicide and assisted suicide are being increasingly tolerated as ways to escape unendurable mental or physical suffering, but it isn't widely accepted that suicide may be a rational choice before the onset of such suffering. This book's basic claim is that it can be rational to choose to die sooner as oneself than to survive as a lessened other: that judicious appropriation of one's own inevitable death can be an identity-affirming act and a fitting end to life. Discussion of preemptive suicide goes beyond contributing to current widespread debate about assisted suicide. It is a matter tightly interrelated with other right to die questions and one bound to become a national issue. If there are good arguments for escaping intolerable situations caused by age-related deteriorative conditions, most of those arguments will equally support avoidance of those conditions. If assisted suicide becomes more generally acknowledged and accepted, preemptive suicide will almost certainly follow. It is crucial, then, to examine whether preemptive suicide constitutes a rational option for reflective aging individuals.

Through the dramatic story of her father's decision to die with the help of Dr. Jack Kevorkian and her struggle to cope with his suicide, the author explores the controversies surrounding euthanasia and the right to die. *Simultaneous. Tour. IP.*

Making the Most of Our Final Choices

A Story of Love, Death and the Law

To Die Well

Defining Death

Exploring the Euthanasia Underground