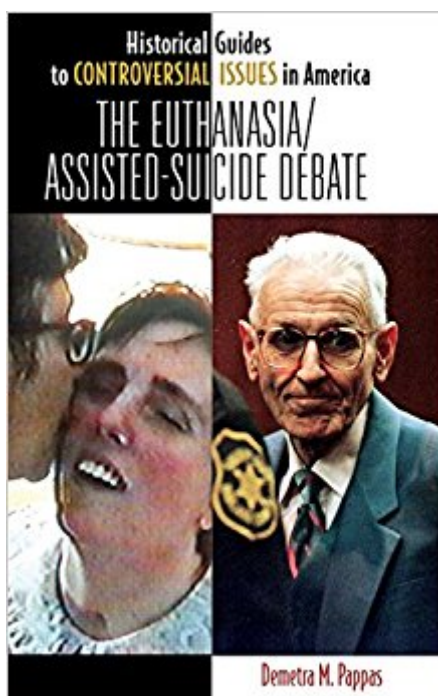


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The Euthanasia/Assisted-Suicide Debate (Historical Guides To Controversial Issues In America)



Synopsis

This revealing volume explores recent historical perspectives on the modern euthanasia and assisted-suicide debate and the political arenas in which it has unfolded. Case studies explain contemporary legal techniques in the handling of euthanasia and assisted-suicide prosecutions, including those involving doctors, nurses, and family members. A chronology shows political events and major cases of medical euthanasia and assisted suicide over the past 100 years. A glossary explains key terms, such as "causation," "intent," "palliative care," and "double effect." An interdisciplinary bibliography cites significant materials from the fields of history, law, and sociology, as well as major medical journal articles.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide Debate is a thorough yet concise review of the history and development of medical euthanasia and assisted suicide. Pappas goes to great lengths to provide information from every side of this charged issue in an unbiased manner. The book covers the extensive history of legislative efforts related to euthanasia dating back to 1905 as well as the gradual transition from euthanasia as a practical, medical issue to a controversial issue based in politics, religion, and morality. The book is structured in chronological order, with each chapter highlighting a significant portion of the development of the euthanasia debate from the 1890s through today. Specific examples of legislation, litigation, and case studies are cited, including both those that were highly publicized—such as Dr. Jack Kevorkian and Terri Schiavo—as

well as those not broadly covered by the media. Although there is detailed historical coverage, this work is also contemporary, attempting to provide as up-to-date coverage as possible by including case studies from 2000 on. With a clear table of contents, subheadings within each chapter, and an accurate index featuring cross-referencing, this book is easy to navigate. The glossary at the end of the book is of paramount value to readers, clearly making the distinction between related terms, such as voluntary euthanasia, involuntary euthanasia, assisted suicide, and passive euthanasia. Additionally, the bibliography provides readers with a wealth of information regarding specific legislation, court cases, and coverage in medical journals throughout history. Part of Greenwood's Historical Guides to Controversial Issues in America series, this offers complete coverage of every aspect of the euthanasia debate and would be a great addition to public, high-school, and undergraduate libraries. This book removes the typical pro-con approach taken with controversial topics and simply provides information leaving readers to arrive at their own conclusions, making it an invaluable resource for students. --Janet Pinkley

"The Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide Debate is a thorough yet concise review of the history and development of medical euthanasia and assisted suicide. . . . Part of Greenwood's Historical Guides to Controversial Issues in America series, this offers complete coverage of every aspect of the euthanasia debate and would be a great addition to public, high school, and undergraduate libraries. This book removes the typical pro-con approach taken with controversial topics and simply provides information leaving readers to arrive at their own conclusions, making it an invaluable resource for students." - Booklist

"This book provides a cogent and systematic analysis of the issue. Arguments against euthanasia as well as those supporting it are well presented here." - ARBA

This book is quite a detailed and enjoyable journey through the history of the assisted suicide debate. It would be a great teaching tool for a class on law and society or criminal justice. It is also an invaluable round-up of the current state of the study of assisted suicide for scholars in the field. I recommend this book highly!

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