



"SUFFERING AND JUSTICE"

Selected topics from the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities meeting

Thursday, December 1, 2005

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Chancellor's Dining Room, Brown University

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Selected provocative topics related to suffering and justice from the recent American Society for Bioethics and Humanities meeting in Washington, DC.

Objectives:

- ◆ Provide background education on emerging issues in bioethics
- ◆ Discuss emerging issues in bioethics and practical implications on a local level
- ◆ Continue the dialogue within OSEN relating to fairness and justice in healthcare

Topics:

◆ **Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo: Medical Professionalism, Dual Loyalty and Human Rights**

What are the facts about the role medicine has played in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo? What lessons can be learned that would provide guidance in situations of dual loyalty in our professional lives?

◆ **Conceptions of Justice: International Considerations Related to Basic Rights to Healthcare/National Considerations Related to Investment in Public Health**

"Without a social justice component, medical ethics risks becoming yet another strategy for managing inequality." (Paul Farmer, *Pathologies of Power*) How do liberation theology and considerations of social justice obligate bioethicists and clinicians to concentrate on issues of reducing (global or local) health inequalities?

◆ **Justice and Quality of Life – A New Model of Caring About and Caring for Patients with Dementia**

Traditional considerations of quality of life are both morally and practically flawed when used to direct the care of patients with dementia. What responsibilities do we have as members of a moral community toward these persons? Would another model of care be more appropriate?

◆ **Just Responses to Sterilization Requests by Guardians of the Cognitively Disabled**

How can guardians manage conflict of interest when making reproductive decisions on behalf of cognitively impaired persons? How can one protect a cognitively impaired woman's right to be free from involuntary sterilization and, at the same time, preserve her right to obtain voluntary sterilization if desired?

Call Donna at 401-863-3969, or email Donna_Goodnow@Brown.edu to RSVP or get directions.

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