

BIOETHICS IN ACTION

Speaking from and to the growing movement among academics to become involved with “socially engaged” work, this volume presents first-person case studies of attempts to fix serious ethical problems in medical practice and research. It highlights the critical difference between the pundit approach to bioethics and the interventional approach – the talkers and the doers – and points to how abused and damaged the doers often end up. Chapters cover a diverse set of topics, including the troubling influence of for-profit businesses on public health policy, the politics of exposing histories of unjust medical research, the challenges of patient rights’ work in sexuality and reproduction, collaborations between NGOs and academics, methods for changing entrenched yet harmful medical practices, engaging public policy through educating governmental leaders, and whistleblowing. The trending interest in the interplay of academia and advocacy and the growing importance of “socially engaged” work by academics make this a timely and much-needed resource.

FRANÇOISE BAYLIS is an internationally renowned bioethics expert whose innovative work, at the intersection of policy and practice, has stretched the very boundaries of the field. Her ethics research focuses primarily on women’s reproductive health and genetic technologies. Baylis believes bioethicists need to exercise their moral imagination and find creative ways to make the powerful care. She is a member of the Order of Canada and the Order of Nova Scotia and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. In 2017, she was awarded the Canadian Bioethics Society Lifetime Achievement Award.

ALICE DREGER is an historian of science, medicine, and sexuality, a patient advocate, mainstream writer, and public intellectual. Her most recent book, *Galileo’s Middle Finger*, funded by a Guggenheim Fellowship, has won praise in the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, *Nature*, *Science*, and beyond. An award-winning writer, Dreger has published in many major venues including *WIRED*, *Slate*, the *Guardian*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *New Statesman*, the *Atlantic*, and the *New York Times*, and her TED talk, “Is Anatomy Destiny?” has been viewed over a million times. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has called Dreger a “star scholar.”

CAMBRIDGE BIOETHICS AND LAW

This series of books was founded by Cambridge University Press with Alexander McCall Smith as its first editor in 2003. It focuses on the law's complex and troubled relationship with medicine across both the developed and the developing world. Since the early 1990s, we have seen in many countries increasing resort to the courts by dissatisfied patients and a growing use of the courts to attempt to resolve intractable ethical dilemmas. At the same time, legislatures across the world have struggled to address the questions posed by both the successes and the failures of modern medicine, while international organisations such as the WHO and UNESCO now regularly address issues of medical law.

It follows that we would expect ethical and policy questions to be integral to the analysis of the legal issues discussed in this series. The series responds to the high profile of medical law in universities, in legal and medical practice, as well as in public and political affairs. We seek to reflect the evidence that many major health-related policy debates in the United Kingdom, Europe and the international community involve a strong medical law dimension. With that in mind, we seek to address how legal analysis might have a trans-jurisdictional and international relevance. Organ retention, embryonic stem cell research, physician assisted suicide and the allocation of resources to fund health care are but a few examples among many. The emphasis of this series is thus on matters of public concern and/or practical significance. We look for books that could make a difference to the development of medical law and enhance the role of medico-legal debate in policy circles. That is not to say that we lack interest in the important theoretical dimensions of the subject, but we aim to ensure that theoretical debate is grounded in the realities of how the law does and should interact with medicine and health care.

Series Editors

Professor Graeme Laurie, *University of Edinburgh*
Professor Richard Ashcroft, *Queen Mary, University of London*

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Frontmatter
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This work was supported in part by the Canada Research Chairs program (2011–2018) on Impact Ethics. Funding was provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to Françoise Baylis for an invitation-only workshop in Halifax in the fall of 2012. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss ways and means of promoting ethical policy in the fields of health, science, and biotechnology. We sought to engage key stakeholders and knowledge purveyors (bioethicists, policy analysts, and journalists) in debate and discussion about ways of promoting innovative, responsible, and accountable bioethics as a means to effect the development of sound public policy. There were many positive outcomes from this workshop, one of which is the blog Impact Ethics (which is thriving). Another positive outcome is this collected edition. Many of the contributors to this book were not participants in the original workshop, but the germ of an idea for this book project was sowed at this inaugural meeting. As well, protected research time to work on this project was made possible by generous support of the Brocher Foundation, www.brocher.ch.