

## *Index*

- abortion 197–218
  - and animal essentialism 202, 203, 218
  - arguments against 197–200
  - Comparable Lives Argument against 199, 205–217
  - and the comparable lives thesis 199–200, 200–205
  - consequences of 202
  - ethics of 199
  - Harm Account and 198–200, 217
  - meaning of 197
  - and mind essentialism 10, 201, 202, 203, 218
  - moral permissibility of 10, 143, 211, 215
  - and person essentialism 5, 32, 33–35, 37, 48, 218
  - and the Prevention Principle 202
  - Subject Value Account and 152, 197, 198
  - use of term 197
- Absolutist Argument 184–188, 195
  - and parity argument 187
  - Two Spells* 186
  - Unconsciousness* 185
- achievement preferentialism 94
- active euthanasia 171, 178, 180, 191, 194
  - best interests argument 193, 194, 196
  - conditions 178
  - intentional 178, 187
  - unintentional 178, 184
- active suicide 175
  - assistance in 191
  - by firearm 180
  - intentional 175, 184, 187
  - rationality of 183
- acts, and omissions 144, 174
- actualist comparativism 118, 207, 214
  - against abortion 206–208, 214
  - implausible consequences 119
- Actualist Interest Relativism
  - against abortion 211–215
  - explained 212
  - Isolated Animal* 214
  - Prenatal Injury* 211, 212, 218
  - Young Cancer Patient* 213
- adenosine triphosphate 16
- afterlife 3, 4
- aging 39–41, 57
  - biological 40
  - distinguished from death 6, 39, 57
  - and the prospect of indefinitely extended life 4
  - sets the stage for death 41
- aims
  - fulfillment of rational 94, 96
  - present-aim theory (Parfit) 110–111, 113
  - See also* goals
- aliveness
  - and actualist comparativism 118
  - but no longer sentient human beings 153
  - degree of 43
  - and harm from death 122, 138
  - and use of terms ‘organism,’ ‘animal,’ ‘or person’ 47
- Altman, Sidney 13
- altruistic suicide 176
  - Captain Oates* 176
- Alzheimer’s disease 28
- amebocytes 15
- amino acids 12
- amoebas, division of 27, 47, 58
- Anderson, Gillian 23
- androids 33, 48
  - self-aware (Data) 29, 36
- anencephaly 165, 200
- aneurysm, *Fred’s* case 98, 99
- animal Epicureanism 163–164
  - and Combined Account 163
  - and comparativism 163
  - and Highest Subject Value Account 163
- animal essentialism 5, 29, 37, 46
  - and abortion 202, 203, 218
  - and the termination thesis 47
  - transplantation case 6

- animalism 29, 31, 48
  - view of human beings 151
- animalist account of persistence 29–30, 31, 32, 37
  - Cerebral Death* 30
  - and termination thesis 46
- animals 37
  - and the Consent Account 160
  - corpses 46
  - diminished harm thesis 164–165
  - extension of the Harm Account of wrongness of killing to 148
  - and infant nonpersons 202, 217
  - Isolated Animal* 214
  - justification for killing compared with similar human beings 164
  - killing 146, 150, 154, 163
  - killing for recreation 163
  - killing to eat 163
  - lack desire to live 217
  - painless death for 163
  - permissibility of euthanizing 9, 163–165
  - thinking animal problem 33–35
  - and threshold of respect 166
  - use of term 47
  - value versus welfare 156
  - value weighed against human beings 154, 163, 164, 185, 213
  - welfare and when to kill 150, 155, 156
  - with self-awareness 25, 155, 163
- annihilation 3
  - death entails 58
  - equation of death with 46
  - implications of 3
  - See also* ceasing to exist
- anoxia 55
- anticipation 68, 73, 74
- ants, colonies of 15, 37
- apoptosis 40, 41, 42, 58
  - may be initiated then reversed 43
  - triggers of 40, 41
- Aristotle 18, 135
- artificial life 19–24
  - possibility of 22
  - robotic trucks 19, 20, 21
  - the study of (“alife”) 24
- artificialness, degree of 22
- assistance in euthanasia 189–194
- assisted suicide 143, 171, 180, 189–194
  - as a crime in UK and US states 171
- ataraxia* (tranquility of mind) 62, 73, 75–80, 81
- attachment thesis, and comparativism 167
- attempted suicide 195
  - real or feigned 173
- attitudinal pleasures 90, 95
  - ranking regarding ‘altitude’ 90
- augmentation 12, 21, 37
- authorization for future contingencies 191, 192
- auto-destruction/auto-termination 172, 175
- autoimmune diseases, which damage the central nervous system 56
- autolysis 42
- automata (Hobbes) 11
- autonomy
  - deriving from moral principles 158
  - loss of 179, 183
  - respect for 158, 187
  - violation by killing 148, 158
- autotrophs 20
- bacteria 16, 17
  - genome transplantation 22
- Bauby, Jean-Dominique, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* 56
- Beck, Aaron 181
- bees, colonies of 14–15
- behavior
  - objectionable 190
  - suicidal 177
- being killed
  - Epicurean view 145
  - right to not, without permission 146
- beings, with the genome of *Homo sapiens* by chance 24
- beliefs
  - about death 4, 74
  - about dying 4
  - about euthanasia as murder 177
  - about fatal acts 177
  - about past or future states of affairs 90
  - about suicide 177, 183
  - religious 149
- Belshaw, Christopher 43
- beneficence, duty of and killing 145
- benefit
  - against one’s will 149
  - deprivation 133
  - from being prevented from dying 119
  - from death 105
  - from euthanasia 177, 178
  - future and present egoism 79
  - and harm 78, 179
  - and interests 86, 119
  - as a positive condition 103, 105
  - to fetuses of further life 217
  - to people in killing animals 163–165
  - without pleasure 104
- Bernat, James 43
- bifurcated comparativism 78, 103–107, 120
- anesthetic before surgery case 105
- Cheerful Woman’s Coma* 104, 105, 106

- bifurcated comparativism (cont.)
  - Cheerful Woman's Death* 106, 119
  - explained 103
  - objections to 104
  - and positive hedonism 103
  - Suffering Man's Coma* 104, 106
  - Suffering Man's Death* 105, 106, 119
- biology
  - controversial issues in 14
  - skepticism about defining life 19
  - See also evolutionary biology; molecular biology
- birth
  - beginning of process 42
  - death compared with 42, 63
- body
  - brainless 30
  - and cerebrum transplant 6
  - my relationship to my 34
- Boonin, David 215–217
- Boyle, Joseph, Jr. 43, 51
- Bradley, Ben 128, 131
- brain
  - ceasing to function 50, 51
  - in-robot combination 23
  - 'naked brain problem' 32
  - not a human being or an organism 29
  - persons as regions in certain functional states 35
  - regions responsible for our capacity for consciousness 30
  - survival as a bare 49
  - and the thinking animal problem 34
  - while-it-is-capable-of-awareness 35
- brain death 50–52
  - criterion for death 50–51, 58
  - equated with permanent functional death
    - of the brain stem 51, 53
  - Harvard Medical School standards for determining 50–51
  - of a human being, person, or mind 54–56
  - as integration death 51, 52, 53
  - and threshold death 53
- Brain in Vat* 31, 36, 37
- brain stem
  - consciousness mediated by the 54
  - control of higher and lower functions 54, 56
  - houses the reticular activating system 54
  - irreversible cessation of all functions of the
    - 51, 52
  - irreversible damage to the 50
  - prosthetic 55
  - tests of reflexes 56
- brain stem death
  - artificial respiration and circulation in cases of 52
  - brain death equated with permanent functional 51, 54
  - criterion for 39, 51–52
  - UK criteria for 52, 58
- Brock, Dan 159
- Brown, Curtis 74
- Brueckner, Anthony 66
- Buchanan, Allen 159
- Cambridge change* 130
- cancer
  - cells 40
  - Fred's case* 99
- capacity
  - for intrinsic goods or evils 133
  - to request assisted death 194
  - to will 159
- capacity for consciousness
  - and death of a mind 57
  - injuries which destroy 54
  - and intrinsic value 151
  - in late fetus 201
  - loss of 56
- capacity definition of life
  - Aristotle's 18
  - and intrinsic value 151
  - and technological development 19
- capacity for self-awareness 25, 30, 33, 37, 48, 185
- and brain death criterion 54
- and intrinsic value 151
- neonates 204
- capacity for self-determination 150, 185
  - future in children 161
  - and intrinsic value 151
  - lack in animals 164, 185
  - and moral agency 157
- Captain Oates* 176
- cardiopulmonary machines 50, 53
- caring 3, 37, 214
  - about death itself 80
- causal account of responsibility 68, 79, 124
- causality
  - death cannot affect us 68–71
  - from negative events or states of affairs 115
  - overdetermination problem (McMahan)
    - 98, 99
  - of posthumous events 135
  - in suicide 173
  - and threshold death 43
- causation, backwards 69, 135
- ceasing to exist 3, 46–47
  - as human beings 48
  - and loss of identity 48
  - as minds 48
  - personal 48–49

- as persons 48
- versus ceasing to live 41, 45
- without dying 47–48
- See also* annihilation
- Cech, Thomas 13
- cell division, Hayflick's limit 40, 58
- cell fusion, reproduction by 16
- cells 15, 17
  - as colonies 17, 18
  - cancer 40
  - damage to 41
  - death of 39, 40, 42, 58
  - 'immortal' 40
  - 'mortal' 41
  - of multicellular creatures 16
  - reproductive 40
  - slime-mold 15, 16
  - stem 40
- central nervous system, autoimmune diseases
  - which damage 56
- Cerebral Death*
  - animalist account and 30
  - and psychological connectedness 27
  - and psychological continuity 27, 31
- Cerebral death criterion* 57
- Cerebral-thalamic death criterion* 57
- Cerebral-thalamic-stem death criterion* 57
- cerebrum 35
  - ceases to function 56, 59
  - consciousness mediated by the 54
  - Division* case 27, 28, 30
  - left and right hemispheres argument 27, 30
  - transplant 6, 37
- Cheerful Woman's Coma* 104, 105, 106, 109, 125
- Cheerful Woman's Death* 106, 119
- children
  - anencephalic 200
  - consent to kill from 159
  - death compared to that of fetuses 214
  - negative hedonist argument against having 102
  - respect for interests of 161
  - unwanted 190
- chloroplasts 16, 17
- choices, *see* decisions
- chromosomes 40
  - and telomeres 40, 41
- Cicero 76
- cilia 17
- circulation
  - artificial 50, 52, 56
  - irreversible cessation of 51
- classification, of living things 12
- clinical, use of term 49
- clinical death 49–50
  - irreversible 50, 51
- coma
  - Cheerful Woman's Coma* 104, 105, 106, 109, 125
  - as continuous unconsciousness 55
  - distinguished from vegetative state 55
  - and experience requirement 109
  - Fred's case* 98
  - levels of 55
  - no benefit from 120
  - Suffering Man's Coma* 104
- coma dépassé* 50
- comatose patients
  - conscious 56
  - desire to live 215
  - Levy's study 55
- Combined Account of wrongness of killing 9, 144, 161–170
  - and abortion 206, 217
  - assessment of 165
  - and comparativism 170
  - and cross-species claims 165
  - and diminished harm thesis 164–165
  - Equality and 162–166
  - explained 161
  - and the hierarchy thesis 165
  - and the incompetent 165, 170
  - regarding suicide and euthanasia 9, 186, 191, 195
  - and Time-Relative Harm Account 166–169
- commensurability problem 84, 88
  - welfare versus subject value 155
- Comparable Lives Argument against abortion 199, 205–217
  - Actualist Comparativism 206–208
  - Actualist Interest Relativism 211–215
  - Combined Account 206, 217
  - Interest Relativism 208, 218
  - Present Desire Comparativism 215–217
- comparable lives thesis
  - abortion and the 199–200, 200–205
  - gradualist response 203–205
  - mindist response 200–203
  - personist response 200–203
- comparativism 82–88, 114, 117, 119
  - account of interests 86–87, 139
  - and animal Epicureanism 163
  - and the attachment thesis 167
  - and the Combined Account 170
  - and the Comparable Lives Argument against abortion 206, 208, 215–217, 218
  - compared with actualist comparativism 118
  - compared with bifurcated comparativism 105
  - criticism of 166–169
  - deprives us of intrinsic goods 120, 127
  - on dying young 100, 127
  - Epicureans revision of 101–104, 120

- comparativism (cont.)
  - explained 7, 86–87, 167
  - and the Harm Account 144, 217
  - and the harm theses 97–119, 139
  - and interest actualism 118, 206–217
  - and negative hedonism 102
  - and pluralism 95–97
  - and positive hedonism 88–91, 100, 103, 106
  - and posthumous harm thesis 97–119
  - and preferentialism 92–94
  - and priorism 136
  - and states of affairs 120
  - time aspect 117, 124, 125, 136
  - and Time-Relative Harm Account 166–169, 208
  - time-neutral 168, 208
  - See also* actualist comparativism; bifurcated comparativism; Present Desire Comparativism
- competence 159
  - choosing to die after ceasing to have 189
  - choosing to die during 189
  - and euthanasia 178
  - and informed consent 159, 186, 189
  - intervention in cases of 189–193
  - moral considerations compared with incompetence 161, 162, 166, 170
  - to request assisted death 194
- Competent, the, and the Consent Account of the wrongness of killing 159–160, 206
- computers 21
  - simulations of life forms which evolve 24
- Concealed Betrayal* 107, 108
- concern about dying 4, 72
  - and beliefs 74
  - rational egoistic concern 167
- concurrentism 126, 134, 138, 139
- conscious existence, as an honorary type of life 48
- consciousness
  - beings with 11
  - capacity for and brain death criterion 54
  - injuries which destroy capacity for 54
  - mediated by the thalamus, cerebrum, and brain stem 54
  - minds as entities capable of 30
  - recovery after coma 55
- consent
  - absence of in fetuses 206
  - competent 159, 186, 189
  - harm by 149
  - informed 159, 186, 189, 195
  - presumption of to being killed painlessly 146
- Consent Account of wrongness of killing 9, 144, 158–160, 170
  - and abortion 217
  - the Competent 159–160, 206
  - defense 159
  - the Incompetent 160
  - with informed choice 159
  - Simple Consent Account 158
  - See also* Combined Account of wrongness of killing
- contemplation, passive 66
- Contented Infantile Man* (Nagel) 89, 90, 92
- convention 165
- Corpse-Reassembler* 45
- corpses 6, 46
  - animal 46
  - as dead persons 46
  - existence after becoming 58
  - frozen or pickled 46
  - intrinsic value of 151
  - lack goods 133
  - use of term 47
- creation of life, watchmaker theory 39
- creatures
  - different amount of intrinsic value 149, 150, 157
  - killing different sorts of 146, 154
- criminality, of assisted suicide 171
- criteria for death 39, 49–57
  - brain death criterion (US) 39, 50–51, 52, 58
  - brain stem criterion (UK) 39, 51–52
  - 'higher brain criterion' 57
  - human beings 49–54, 58
  - minds 49, 54–56, 57
  - persons 49, 54–56
  - and physicians 49
  - UK 39, 51–52
  - US 39, 50–51, 52, 58
- critical preferentialism 94
- cross-breeding 22
- cross-species claims, wrongness of killing 155, 163, 165
- Cruzan, Nancy 6, 54
- Culver, C.M. 43
- Cure, The* 209, 214, 215
  - Post-Cure Killing* 209
  - Post-Cure Poisoning* 209
- cyborgs 23, 31, 32
- Davidson, Donald, Swampman case 24
- Davis, John 97
- dead
  - better off 133
  - harm while 129–134
  - lack responsiveness 132–134
  - we can wrong them but not harm them 97
  - we cannot experience being 107
- dead survivors view 46
  - criticism of 46

- death 3–5, 39–59  
   actual and possible human 49  
   aging distinguished from 6, 39, 40, 57  
   ambiguity of term 6, 39, 41, 58  
   as annihilation 3  
   as bad for us 4, 106, 131  
   can benefit us 105, 106  
   can neither harm nor benefit us 103  
   can affect us only when it occurs 69, 80  
   clarified 39–49  
   compared with birth 42, 63  
   defined by President's Commission (US) 51  
   defined as if it occurs only after we are  
     nonexistent 70  
   as ending 3  
   ends experiences 109  
   as escape 4  
   evilness of 4, 127  
   exact timing 123  
   as extrinsically bad for us 108  
   happens too quickly to affect us 70, 134  
   harmlessness of 4, 8, 62, 64, 67  
   as an injury to our lives as a whole 125  
   instantaneous 70, 81  
   lacks clear boundaries 42, 73  
   legal definitions of 50–52  
   or life 4  
   living well and risk of a bad 4  
   as a momentary event 41, 42–43, 70  
   moot preclusion of goods by 114–117  
   occurs only after we are nonexistent 70  
   painless 7, 71, 75, 102, 145, 163, 180  
   permanence of 6, 44, 45, 58, 63  
   postponing 64  
   as process of dying 6, 44, 48, 70  
   as process or sequence of events 41–42, 58, 81  
   prospect of a painful 79, 80  
   referring to events 41, 44  
   as the result of a process 41  
   sensitivity to 66  
   significance of 3  
   signs of 6  
   speed of 70, 134, 171, 180  
   as a state 6, 41, 43, 44, 48, 58  
   state of death cannot affect us 68, 72  
   as state of nonexistence 61, 68  
   stretching the concept 48  
   as timelessly harmful 128, 138  
   as transformation 3  
   as transition to nonexistence 7  
   as unique 48–49  
   verification of 49–57  
   watchmaker theory 39  
   *See also* clinical death; criteria for death;  
     denouement death; dying; dying process;  
     personal death; process death;  
     threshold death  
*Death by Deviant Causation* 173  
 deathlessness 58  
*Deceived Man* (Nozick) 89, 91, 135  
 deception 89, 91  
 decisions  
   in Combined Account 165  
   competence and incompetence 161,  
     189–193, 193–194  
   and interests in moral account 161  
   irresponsibility of choosing to die 188–189  
   morality of choosing to die 183–189  
   rationality of choosing to die 171, 178–183  
   to be killed at a later time 160, 161, 192, 195  
   to have oneself killed 158, 159, 178, 179, 192  
 degenerative disease 4  
 dementia 31  
   degree of and killing 153, 162  
   extreme 57, 154, 165  
   progressive 4  
   severe 48, 192  
   *See also* Alzheimer's disease  
 demise, entails death 48  
 dendrites of cortical neurons 205  
 denouement death 42, 44, 48, 58, 73  
   effect on us 70, 72  
 dependence  
   on machines 179  
   on others 179  
 depression, and suicidal intent 181  
 deprivation harm 120, 122, 131, 132, 133, 134  
 desire actualism, and interest actualism 119  
 desire adaptation 75–78, 81  
 desire fulfillment theory, *see* preferentialism  
 desire not to die 76  
*Desire Slavery* 96–97  
 desire to die 76, 182  
 desire to live  
   ideal 216, 218  
   lack in fetus 216, 217  
   versus desire to die 182  
 desires  
   about our desires 96  
   antemortem 214  
   changing 110, 113, 160, 192  
   conditional 77, 78  
   conditional on their own persistence 93,  
     109, 111  
   contingent on existence 76, 77  
   death undermines fulfillment of 110, 114, 120  
   dispositional or unconscious 215  
   as expressing identity 159  
   fetuses lack 207  
   global 110, 112

- desires (cont.)
  - for immortality 4
  - independent 76, 77
  - indifference thesis (Parfit) 111–114
  - and interests 96–97, 113
  - irrational 94
  - lack in fetuses 207, 216, 218
  - noninstrumental 173
  - pastness of 110, 112, 114, 120
  - present-aim theory (Parfit) 110–111
  - removed against our will 113
  - and responsiveness 133
  - second-order 112
  - thanatization of our 76, 77, 81
  - unconditional 77, 78
  - undermining features 110, 111, 112
  - unfulfilled before they are thwarted 93, 100, 136
  - voluntarily giving up 101, 113, 114, 120
  - which do not contribute to our well-being 94
- “desperation,” suicide and 181
- detachment thesis (Parfit) 28, 167
- devices
  - futuristic 44
  - nonliving as persons 36
  - self-perpetuating 19–22
- dignity, and respect for moral agency 157
- diminished harm thesis 165
  - applied to animals 164–165
- Disassembler-Reassembler* 44, 45, 63
- distress, and suicidal intent 182, 195
- Division* case 27, 28, 32
  - as death 48, 58
  - if vital processes continue 47
  - interests in 167
- DNA 5, 12, 13, 37
  - bacterial or nuclear 16
  - damage to 41
  - key activities of 12
  - of mitochondria 16, 17
  - replication 12–19, 22
  - See also telomeres
- dogs 13, 47
- Drexler, Eric 23
- drugs
  - to achieve suicide 180, 195
  - overdose 55
  - therapy 171, 182
  - as undermining moral agency 158
  - undermining our self-determination
    - by taking 159
- Duchovny, David 23
- Duplication*
  - animalist and psychological account 32, 33
  - mindist account 31
- Durkheim, Emile, on suicide 174
- duty of beneficence, killing and 145
- duty to do good, limits to 188
- Dworkin, Ronald 149
- dying
  - at some designated time 179
  - being prevented from 119
  - brings a good life to an end 63
  - can be in our interests 179
  - cannot be in our interests 179
  - concern about 72
  - entails ceasing to exist, see termination thesis
  - use of term 58
  - while we are young 100, 127
  - worse for children than fetuses 214
- dying process 6, 42, 58
  - beginning of the 50
  - causal affects of 69
  - completion of the, see denouement death
  - death as a moment in the 70
  - harmlessness of 62, 72, 74
  - occurs in degrees 43
  - painfulness of 63
  - point of no return, see threshold death
  - reversal of 43, 50
- eating
  - choosing not to eat sensibly 176
  - refusal to 174, 180
- egocentric preferentialism 94
- egoism
  - present 78–80, 81
  - rational concern 167
- Embodied Mind Account of Identity 31
- embryos 197, 204
  - cell apoptosis to form fingers 40
  - frozen 7, 14, 44
  - in vitro* 197
  - intrinsic value of 151
- emotions, future-directedness of 62
- end
  - death as the 3
  - of life 41–44
  - what sort of 3
- ending
  - existence but not entailing death 58
  - the notion of 41
- ending of life
  - honoring decisions about 159, 171
  - means for 180
  - occurrence while in a state of death 70
  - temporary 44
  - timing 180
- endosymbiosis 12, 16
  - secondary 17
- environment, response to the 19

- Epicureans  
 and animal death 163–164  
 attack on posthumous harm thesis 110  
 bifurcated comparativism 103–107  
 challenge 122–126  
 on preferentialism 101  
 rejection of comparativism 103–107  
 revised comparativism 101–104, 120  
 and temporal relativism 109  
 view of suicide 145
- Epicurus 4  
*ataraxia* project 75, 81  
 challenges to the harm thesis 60–81, 122–126  
 claim that death cannot harm the one  
 who dies 7  
 claim that serious afflictions are not very  
 painful 73  
 conclusions about harmfulness of death  
 and posthumous events 71  
 on death and posthumous events 82  
 on freedom from pain and fear 101  
 his argument 4, 106  
*Letter to Menoeceus* 67  
 objections to the harm thesis 67–75, 80,  
 101–104, 115, 122  
 on pleasure 101  
 on prudential interests 145–146  
 symmetry argument 60–67  
 timing puzzle 8, 67–75, 122–126  
 will 76  
*See also* harm thesis
- epistemology 31
- equality  
 and the Combined Account 162–166  
 and the Highest Subject Value Account 153–155  
 intuitions about 153–155, 162, 165, 170, 186
- Equality Objection, to the Harm Account 147
- equality thesis 147  
 extreme 148  
 extreme anthropocentric 147, 153  
 moderate 148  
 moderate anthropocentric 147
- equanimity, *see ataraxia*
- escape, death as 4
- eternalism 126–129, 138, 139
- ethics, of abortion 199
- eukaryotes 16  
 unicellular 40
- eukaryotic cells  
 as colonies? 17  
 nuclei and organelles of 16
- Europe, brain death criteria 51
- eusocial animals 15–16  
 colonies as organisms 16  
 defined 15–16
- eusocial insects 18
- euthanasia 9, 171–196  
 advantages 180  
 in cases of incompetence 194  
 conditions 178  
 dangers of how far it will be carried 194  
 as directly wrong 183  
 intervention in 191  
 involuntary 178  
 law on 171  
 legalization of 194  
 moral permissibility of 9, 171  
 nonvoluntary 178  
 rationality of 9, 171  
 and suicide 178  
 use of term 172–178  
 voluntary 178  
*See also* active euthanasia; assistance in  
 euthanasia; intervention in suicide and  
 euthanasia; passive euthanasia
- euthanizing  
 animals 9, 163–165, 185  
 sentient beings 156
- events  
 effects of past and future 68  
 ensuring 134  
 harm us only after they occur 129  
 improbable 116  
 instrumental as extrinsic goods 83  
 ‘negative’ 115, 116, 121  
 overall good or bad for me 83–85  
 partially good or bad for me 83  
 positive and negative 116  
 responsible for mortal harm 135  
 type-token ambiguity 85–87, 115, 124  
 value of, *see* comparativism; possible worlds  
*See also* posthumous events; states of affairs
- evils  
 extrinsic 83, 101, 108, 127, 132  
 intrinsic 83, 101, 131, 133  
 relational 137
- evolution, by natural selection 12, 21, 22
- evolutionary biology 12
- existence 5–6  
 after becoming corpses 58  
 beginning of fully formed human being 204  
 and causal affects 68  
 conscious 37  
 conscious as an honorary type of life 48  
 desires contingent on 76, 77  
 ending but not entailing death 58  
 failure of 61  
 follows pre-vital nonexistence 63, 80  
 ‘four-dimensionalism’ 129  
 and intrinsic properties 130



- existence (cont.)
  - intrinsically valuable re attributes 151
  - prevention of coming into 197, 202, 210
  - tenselessness of 130
  - transition to non-existence 7
  - See also* ceasing to exist; nonexistence
- Expensive Care* 176
- experience
  - death ends 109
  - future bias and 66
  - lack of in nonexistence 63
  - and posthumous harm thesis 100
- Experience Machine* (Nozick) 89, 90, 91
- experience requirement 107–109
  - Cheerful Woman's Coma* 109
  - Concealed Betrayal* 107, 108
  - difficulties with 107, 109
  - explained 107
  - and nonexistence 109
  - Suffering Man's Coma* 109
- experimental subjects, and harm by consent 149
- extensive bias, *see* future bias
- fatal acts
  - beliefs about 177
  - foresight about 173
  - and intent 174
  - See also* suicide
- Fatal Crash* 117, 119
- fear
  - absence for pre-vital nonexistence 61
  - anticipatory 73
  - Epicurus on 101
  - future-directedness of 62
  - for ourselves or fear based on empathy 29
  - of permanent nonexistence 63
- fear of death
  - irrationality of according to Epicurus 74
  - not necessary 62
  - process of 62, 80
- Feezell, Randolph 199
- Feinberg, Joel 70, 135
- Feit, Neil 128, 137
- Feldman, Fred 90–91, 95, 108, 128, 131
  - solution to timing puzzle 126–129
- fetuses 197
  - absence of consent 206
  - as below the threshold of respect 208
  - benefit of further life 217
  - brains of early 35
  - and children not the same 210
  - comparable lives thesis 200–205
  - contingent properties 203
  - deprivation of futures 207
  - as human-beings-in-progress 204–205
  - intrinsic value of 151, 152, 198
  - killing 10, 169; *see also* abortion
  - lack of desires 207, 216, 218
  - late 201, 204
  - metaphysical gradualism 204
  - minded 203, 208
  - as potential people 200
  - status of 6, 33, 166, 200–205
- Fischer, John 66, 107
- flagellae 17
- forward bias, *see* future bias
- 'four-dimensionalism' 129
- France, neurology 50
- Frankfurt, Harry 96
- Fred's Aneurysm* 98
- Fred's Cancer* 99
- Fred's Coma* 98
- Fred's Fall* 97
- Fred's Suspension* 99
- Fred's Torture* 99, 100
- Fred's Unconsciousness* 185
- freedom
  - in cases of incompetence 193
  - protection of individual 190
  - to authorize others to kill us 191, 192
  - to authorize ourselves to kill ourselves 191
- function, or capacity definition of life 18, 50
- future
  - attitudes to the 64, 79, 80
  - authorization for contingencies in the 191, 192, 195
  - benefit and present egoism 79, 80
  - deprivation of value of for fetuses 199, 207
  - effects of prenatal injury 211
  - loss of goods in the 213
  - planning for the 3, 37, 66
- future bias 80
  - and experience 66
  - Parfit on 65–66, 113
  - rationality of 66
- future self 3, 215
- Gallup's test for neonates 205
- Gautama, Siddhartha 75
- genetic engineering 22
- genome
  - in control of organisms 22
  - Homo sapiens* 24
  - shaped by particular gametes 65
  - transplantation in bacteria 22
- Gert, B. 43
- gestation, third trimester of 205
- Glannon, Walter 107
- goals
  - forward-looking active 66

- not mere desires 94
- See also* aims
- good, ambiguity of the term 86
- good life
  - deprivation of 199
  - Epicurus on the 102
  - failing to have more 115
  - and lack of unconditional desires 78
- goodness, of life 4, 78
- goods
  - commensurability problem 84, 88, 95
  - do not offset evils but might eliminate them 103
  - essential 117
  - extrinsic 83
  - future bias towards 65, 66
  - instrumental 88
  - intrinsic 83, 84, 88, 91, 92, 95, 97, 117, 120, 131, 133
  - lack of by the dead 133
  - loss of future 199, 213
  - moot preclusion by death 114–117
  - not cumulative for animals 163
  - relational 137
  - relative importance of some or lack 116
- gradualism
  - and the Comparable Lives Thesis 203–205
  - metaphysical 204, 207, 218
  - value 204
- gratification, desires and 92
- Grey, William 137
- grief 74
  - anticipatory as irrational 74
  - as self-centered 74
- Grisez, Germain 43, 51
- Guillain-Barré syndrome 56
- happiness, minimal conditions for 116
- harm
  - against our interests 82, 119
  - and benefit 78, 179
  - by consent 149
  - Epicurus' claim 7, 107, 122
  - Epicurus' criterion for 71
  - experience requirement 107–109
  - extrinsic and intrinsic 107, 108, 132
  - in lack of self-determination 97
  - narrow conception of 8, 74
  - only if it causes suffering 71, 79
  - painless 104
  - as a positive condition 103, 105
  - and positive hedonism 88–91
  - possible 148–149
  - prenatal 211
  - reduces to pain 8, 71, 75
  - temporal location of 137
  - timeless 124, 139
  - use of term 117
  - while dead 131
  - and wrongness of killing 8, 147
  - See also* deprivation harm; mortal harm
- Harm Account of wrongness of killing 9, 144–149, 170
  - and abortion 198–200, 206, 217
  - and the Equality Objection 147
  - explanation 144
  - and the hierarchy thesis 147, 165
  - and negative hedonism 145
  - objections 147, 165
  - permissible harms and harmless wrongs 148–149
  - and positive hedonism 146
  - Time-Relative 166–169
  - virtues of 165
  - See also* Combined Account of wrongness of killing
- harm thesis 4, 60, 71, 97–119
  - bifurcated comparativism 103–107
  - challenges to 60–81
  - and comparativism 97–101
  - defense 97–101
  - defined 97
  - Epicurus' objections to the 67–75, 80, 115, 122
  - experience requirement 107–109
  - interest actualism 117–119
  - moot preclusion 114–117
  - negative hedonism 101–103
  - and positive hedonism 103
  - solutions to timing puzzle 126–138, 139
  - temporal relativism 109–114
  - See also* diminished harm thesis; *Fred's* cases; posthumous harm thesis
- harmfulness
  - extrinsic 108
  - versus wrongness of killing 210
- harmlessness of death 4, 8, 62, 64, 68–71, 71–75
  - Epicurus' conclusions 71
  - time aspects 67–75, 128, 138
- Harvard Medical School, standards for
  - determining brain death 50–51
- Hayflick, Leonard 40
- heart
  - artificial 50, 53
  - control by brain stem 54
  - resuscitation of 43
  - stops functioning 49, 52
  - surgery to stop and restart 50
- hedonism 132
  - criticism of 95
  - and the Harm Account 144
  - and preferentialism 95

- hedonism (cont.)
  - and present egoism 79
  - See also negative hedonism; positive hedonism
- Headless* 153
- Hendin, Herbert 181
- heterotrophs 21
- Hetherington, Stephen 107
- hierarchy thesis 147, 148, 150, 165, 170
- "higher brain criterion" 57
  - Cerebral death criterion* 57
  - Cerebral-thalamic death criterion* 57
  - Cerebral-thalamic-stem death criterion* 57
  - and psychological account of persistence 57
- Highest Subject Value Account 152–155, 163, 165, 170, 185, 198
- Hobbes, Thomas, *Leviathan* 11
- homeostasis 19, 20
- Homo sapiens* 24
- "hopelessness," suicide and 181
- human beings 11, 33, 48
  - ceasing to exist 48
  - criteria for death 49–54, 54–56, 58
  - equality thesis of killing 147
  - fetuses as 6, 204–205, 218
  - as *Homo sapiens* 24
  - interests and abortion 202
  - intrinsic value of 149, 198
  - as noumenal beings with moral agency 158
  - as the only valuable subjects 150
  - possibility that some persons are not 29
  - replaced by "transhuman" or "posthuman" beings 23
  - replacing parts with machines 23
  - respect for dignity of 158
  - responsiveness of 132
  - and the thinking animal problem 33–35
  - when they come to exist 204
  - wrongness of killing 143, 147
- human-beings-in-progress 204–205, 218
- human-beings-while-capable-of-awareness 35
- human nature, altering by genetic engineering 22
- humanity 5, 24–38
  - relationship of personhood with 24
- humanoids 24
- Hume, David 183, 188
- Hybrid Account 155, 185, 186, 198
- identity 24–38
  - Embodied Mind Account 31
  - as expressed by desires 159
  - goals and contemplation of the past 66
  - loss of and ceasing to exist 48
  - loss of as death 48
  - and prudential interests 28, 167
  - and psychological connectedness over time 26
  - and psychological continuity 26, 28, 31, 33, 47
  - as a transitive relation 26
- illness
  - serious or terminal 182, 193
  - terminal in incompetent people 194
- immoral people, and moral agency 157
- immortality
  - desires for 4
  - why is it valued? 4
- immune system
  - irreparable damage to the 43
  - self-destruction 40
- impulse, and consent to being killed 159
- incompetence
  - intervention in cases of 189, 193–194, 196
  - moral considerations compared with competence 161, 162, 170
  - and nonvoluntary euthanasia 178
  - permanent 193
  - temporary 193, 195
- Incompetent, the
  - and the Combined Account 165
  - and the Consent Account 160
- indefinitism 126, 136–138, 139
- no-answer 138
- indifference
  - about mortality and posthumous events 76
  - and love for another 77
  - to death 76, 81
- indifference thesis 96, 105, 111–114, 121
  - examples 111
  - explained 111–114
  - Poet* 111, 112, 113
  - and present-aim theory 111
  - Savior* 111, 112
- inequality of the oblivious 154, 165
- infantile state 89, 90, 92
- infants
  - anencephalic 165
  - capacity to develop self-determination 165
  - ideal desire to live 216, 218
  - intrinsic value of 152, 153
  - killing compared with older persons 169
  - nonpersons becoming persons 202
  - status of 166
  - with severe mental impairment, killing 153, 165
- injuries
  - to brainstem, hemispheres, or thalamus 55
  - which destroy the body's integrative functions 56
  - which destroy capacity for consciousness 54, 56
  - which undermine cognitive function 56
- insanity, and rationality of choice to die 180–183
- insect biomass 15

- insentient life forms, *see* plants
- instrumental reasons 77
- integration death 43, 51, 52, 58
  - approximate natural 53
  - artificial 52, 53
  - brain (stem) death as 53
  - and criteria for death 28, 51, 52
  - natural 52, 53
  - problems with 52–53
  - and threshold death 43
- intelligence enhancement 116
- intent
  - and fatal acts 174
  - and suicide 173, 174, 175, 176, 181, 182
- interest actualism 117–119, 121, 212
  - actualist comparativism 118, 206–208
  - and comparativism 118, 206–217, 218
  - counterintuitive consequences 213
  - and desire actualism 119
  - Fatal Crash* 117, 119
  - Robbery* 119
  - and the Time-Relative Interest Account 213
- Interest Relativism 168
  - Comparable Lives Argument against abortion 208, 212, 218
  - Cure, the* 209, 214, 215
  - Poisoned Fetus* 210
  - Post-Cure Killing* 209
  - Post-Cure Poisoning* 209
  - Time-Relative Account of Killing 169, 208
  - See also* Actualist Interest Relativism
- interests 5
  - ambiguity and timing aspect 87, 124
  - analysis of personal 82, 119
  - antemortem 214
  - assessing in a temporally neutral way 78, 79
  - assessing in a temporally relative way 78, 79
  - and benefit 86, 119
  - and choices in moral account 161, 187
  - consenting to things against our 159
  - death as against one's personal 82, 123
  - and degree of competence 162
  - and desire adaptation 77
  - and desires 96–97, 113
  - future events affecting present 135
  - of the future self 215
  - future time-relative 213
  - harm as against our 82, 117, 119
  - impoverished 77, 81, 96
  - of incompetent subjects 161
  - intervention in their best 193, 194
  - living on against one's 171
  - mistaken in suicide or euthanasia 190
  - passive 66
  - and positive value 86
  - present and future 211, 213
  - and rational egoistic concern 167
  - respect for 161
  - responsiveness to those of incompetent beings 161, 166
  - of self-determining beings 147
  - of sentient beings 166
  - Time-Relative Account of 109–114, 124, 168, 208, 209, 211
  - and welfare 7, 82, 119, 206–208
  - See also* comparativism; present egoism; prudential interests
- intervention in suicide and euthanasia 189–194
  - the Competent 189–193
  - the Incompetent 189, 193–194
  - permissible cases 191, 195
  - rationality of 190, 195
  - and respect for self-determination 190
- intrinsic value 149, 150–157
  - killing while subjects have 152
  - of periods of life 168
  - permanence of 151
  - versus welfare of merely sentient beings 155
- irrationality
  - of consenting to things against our interests 159
  - of suicide 179, 181
- irresponsibility, of choosing to die 188–189
- Isolated Animal* 214
- "isolated subject" 28, 31
- Isolation* case 28
  - mindist account 31
  - psychological account 33
- Kagan, Shelly 175
- Kamm, Frances 66
- Kant, Immanuel 83, 150, 184
- Kantianism, and the Subject Value Account 157–158, 166
- Keller, Simon 94
- Keyes, Daniel, *Flowers for Algernon* 116
- kidneys, ceasing to function 50
- Kierkegaard, Søren, *Either/Or* 96
- killing 8–10, 143–170
  - and abortion 197
  - and duty of beneficence 145
  - morally objectionable 8, 143
  - ordinarily wrong 143
  - other sorts of creatures 143, 144, 146
  - people as worse than killing other sorts of creatures 146, 147
  - versus letting die 144, 178, 187, 197
  - which outweighs lost subject value 9
  - See also* euthanasia; murder; suicide; wrongness of killing

- Kripke, Saul 64  
 Kurzweil, Ray 23, 32
- lack  
   of genius 115  
   of interests 118  
   and loss 115
- Lamont, Julian 134, 137
- law  
   on assisted suicide and euthanasia 171  
   and criteria for recognizing death 51  
   and self-determination 160
- learning  
   and development of mind 205  
   start of development of 205
- Lee, Patrick 151
- legal permissibility, of another imposing  
   their will 160
- legalization, of voluntary medically  
   assisted death 194
- letting die  
   incompetent people 193  
   and killing 144, 187, 197  
   in passive euthanasia 178  
   suicide by refusing medical treatment  
     171, 182
- Levenbook, Barbara 70
- Levy, D.E., study of comatose patients 55
- Lewis, David 27, 47, 58, 130
- life 5–6, 11–38  
   attitudes to future or past 65  
   best possible 116  
   boundaries crossed by misfortune 137  
   characterizing the nature of 11  
   conditions of 4, 5  
   defined in terms of capacities 18, 151  
   goodness of 4, 78  
   as indefinable 19  
   intrinsic value comparison 131  
   and living things 12–38  
   not a requisite for moral standing 36  
   quantity of 65  
   replicator-based account 12–19, 22  
   restoring 7, 44  
   reviving 7, 44  
   sanctity of human 149  
   time-relative value of periods of 168  
   tripartite account 14  
   value or desire for 215  
   *See also* artificial life; end of life;  
     suspension of life
- life extension 4, 63  
   into the future 64  
   to the past 64  
   versus indefinite continuation 64
- life forms  
   as yet undiscovered 5, 24  
   killing insentient 147  
   principles by which they evolve 24
- life plans 3, 66, 96–97, 112
- maturity 113
- life support machines  
   and brain death criterion 53  
   removal from 178  
   when to turn off 53
- lifespan, technology to extend the human 22
- liver, ceasing to function 50
- living things 14  
   Aristotle's definition 18  
   change as they develop 150  
   classification of 12  
   evolution by natural selection 22  
   killing different sorts of 146  
   and life 12–38  
   multiplicity problem of capacities 18  
   with a different genome from *Homo sapiens*  
     cannot be human beings 24
- Locke, John 25
- "locked-in syndrome" 56
- loss 137  
   of ability to reason 192  
   of capacity for consciousness 56, 57  
   as deprivation of goods 4, 8  
   and lack 115  
   of a loved one 4  
   of value of future 199  
   of the will to live 189
- loss of identity  
   and ceasing to exist 48  
   as death 48
- loss of life, permanent 44
- love 91  
   and indifference 77  
   for life 4
- Lucretius  
   asymmetry argument 7, 64  
   challenges to the harm thesis 60  
   *On the Nature of Things* 61  
   symmetry argument 60–67, 80
- Lunatic's Demand* 176
- lungs  
   artificial 50  
   stop functioning 49  
   sustained by a machine 52
- machines  
   *Corpse-Reassembler* 45  
   dependence on 52, 179, 183  
   *Disassembler-Reassembler* 44, 45, 133  
   *Experience Machine* (Nozick) 89, 90

- physiological systems integrated with or without 52
- replacing parts of human beings 23
- self-aware 36
- McInerney, P. 208
- McMahan, Jeff 28, 30, 47, 161
  - criticism of comparativist accounts 166–169, 170
  - on Interest Relativism 168, 169, 208–215, 218
  - mind essentialism 35–36
  - problem of overdetermination 98
  - Time-Relative Account of Killing 208, 210
- manic-depressives, suicide by 181
- Marquis, Don 144, 207
  - on abortion 198–200, 205–206
- matter, physical 45, 76
- mechanical persons, reasons to assign high value to 36
- medical standards, for determination of death 51
- medical treatment 171
  - actions on pronouncement of death 49
  - Expensive Care* 176
  - forcing upon someone 191
  - refusal of 171, 174, 178, 187
- memory, psychology reduced to 26
- mental impairment
  - suicide and 179, 180, 195
  - See also* severe mental impairment
- mercy killing, *see* euthanasia
- metabolism 19, 20
- metaphysical gradualism 204, 207, 218
- mind essentialism 5, 30, 33, 37, 47, 48
  - and abortion 10, 201, 202, 203, 218
  - stage approach and piece approach 35
  - and the termination thesis 47
  - and the thinking animal problem 35
  - transplantation case 6, 37
- mindfulness, potential for 201, 203
- mindism 30
  - and the comparable lives thesis 200–203
- mindist account of persistence 30–31, 37
- minds
  - ceasing to exist 48
  - criteria for death 49, 54–56, 57, 59
  - defined 30
  - development in neonates 205
  - loss of capacity for consciousness and death of 57
  - our existence as 48
- Minnesota, neurosurgeons 50
- misfortune
  - crossing boundaries of life 137
  - use of term 117
- mitochondria 16, 17, 18, 37
- Mitsis, Phillip 66
- molecular biology 12
- moot preclusion 114–117, 119, 120, 136
- moral agency
  - and decisions about future euthanasia 192
  - and dignity as subjects 157, 166
  - and informed consent 195
  - for Kant 157, 184
  - and self-determination 160
- moral authority, to kill oneself or have oneself killed 158
- moral objectionableness, of killing 8, 143
- moral permissibility
  - of abortion 10, 211, 215
  - of another imposing their will 160
  - of assistance in suicide or euthanasia 190, 191, 194
  - of euthanasia 9, 171, 178
  - of intervention in suicide or euthanasia 189–194
  - of killing animals 163–165
  - of suicide 9, 171
- moral responsibility, and retroactive harm 136
- moral standing 36
- moral values, and life plans 96
- morality
  - and abortion 199
  - interests and choices 161
  - and mechanical persons 36
  - recognition of principles of 157
  - and respect for future time-relative interests 213
- morality of choosing to die 183–189
  - Absolutist Argument 184–188
  - irresponsibility 188–189
- mortal harm 67, 82–121
  - blurred boundaries of time 137
  - defined 82
  - dying young 100
  - events responsible for 135
  - precisely when death occurs 134, 139
  - subsequentism and 132
- mortality
  - as an evil 100
  - as bad for you 74
  - and desire adaptation 76
  - indifference about 76
- motion 19
- motivation for living, and thanatization of
  - our desires 77, 81
- motivation for suicide 176–177
  - Captain Oates* 176
  - Expensive Care* 176
  - Lunatic's Demand* 176
  - Samson* 176
  - Suicide Bomber* 177
  - Vindictive Vicky* 177

- multicellular organisms 15, 16
  - self-destruction of cells 40
- multiplicity problem (Aristotle) 18
- murder 143
  - euthanasia as 177
  - suicide as 172
  - wrongness varies with the harm done to its victim 147
- mutations 12, 21, 37
  - bequest of 12, 21, 37
  - inheritance of 12
- My Past or Future Operations* 65
- Nagel, Thomas 64, 89, 107, 108, 129
  - infiniteism 136–138
- naked brain problem 32
- nanobots 23
- natural selection 12, 21, 22
- nature, revival of life in 7
- necrosis 39, 41, 55, 58
- negative hedonism 101–103, 120, 125
  - absurd consequences 102
  - and comparativism 102
  - explained 102
  - and the Harm Account 145
  - Strategic Sacrifice* 102
- 'negativities' 115, 116
- neonates, capacity for self-awareness 204
- nervous system
  - development of the higher 205
  - irreversible cessation of 51
  - responsiveness of 132
  - See also* central nervous system
- neurology, French 50
- nonexistence 61–63
  - death as the first moment of the subject's 70
  - death occurs only after 70
  - and the experience requirement 109, 139
  - past 65
  - permanent 63
  - posthumous 6, 7, 37, 61, 80
  - pre-vital 6, 7, 61, 62, 80
  - temporary 63
  - and zero intrinsic value 131
- nonpersons, mindless 202
- Nozick, Robert 89
- nuclei 16
- nucleic acids 13
- nutrition 20
- objectivism, and pluralism 95
- objects
  - Cambridge change* 130
  - 'four-dimensionalism' 129
  - spatial relations with 137
  - temporal relations with 137
- oblivious, inequality of the 154, 165
- O'Keeffe, Terence 172, 173
- Olson, Eric 24
- omissions
  - and acts 144, 174
  - as ways to die 174
- organelles 16, 17
- organisms 5, 13, 14, 37
  - aging of biological 40
  - artificial 22
  - biological 204
  - colonies of 15
  - components 13, 18
  - designated as *Homo sapiens* 24
  - development of 13
  - distinguished from proto-organisms 13
  - eusocial colonies as 15–16, 37
  - genetically altered 22
  - hybrid 15
  - individual versus colonies 16, 18
  - multicellular creatures as 16
  - no component organisms criterion 16, 17
  - no longer self-aware 30
  - only if surrounded by a membrane 18
  - possibility of ceasing to exist without dying 47–48
  - reproduction of 14–15
  - role of death in formation of 40
  - sterility of 15
  - suspended animation 44
  - use of term 47
  - vital processes of 13, 37
- organs, essential 50
- overdetermination problem (McMahan) 98, 99
- Overvold, Mark 94
- oxygen deprivation, *see* anoxia
- oxytocin 42
- pain
  - death prevents further 105
  - in dying process 63, 71, 79
  - Epicurus on continuous 73
  - Epicurus on 7, 101, 107
  - harm as 8, 75, 107
  - as an intrinsic evil 83, 101
  - lack in pre-vital nonexistence 61
  - Parfit's *Minor Sacrifice* case 79
  - and pleasure 8, 80, 88, 132
  - trading for pleasure 102
  - See also* suffering
- Pallis, Christopher 54
- paramecia 13, 16, 41

- parents
  - deserting in old age 191
  - responsibility of care for children 188
- Parfit, Derek 28, 31, 33
  - detachment thesis 28
  - on future bias 65–66
  - Minor Sacrifice* case 79
  - on prudential interests 167
  - on rational desires 94
  - Reasons and Persons* 112, 114
  - on temporal relativism 109–114
- parity argument 187
- passive euthanasia 178, 192
  - intentional 178
- passive suicide 175, 178, 192
  - by starvation 180
  - conditions 175
  - intentional 176, 178
  - unintentional 187, 188
- past
  - attitudes to the 64, 79, 80
  - indifference about the extent of 66
  - revulsion at events of the 62
- permanence of death 6, 44, 45, 58, 63
- persistence conditions 5, 25–38
  - absence of 25, 36
  - animalist account 5, 6, 29–30, 37
  - mindist account 5, 6, 25, 30–31, 37
  - objections 36
  - psychological account 5, 6, 25–29, 37, 57
- persistence over time
  - as corpses 46
  - as a matter of degree 26
  - and personhood 25–38
- persistent vegetative state 6, 55, 56, 59, 192
  - killing of people in 153, 165
  - See also Cerebral Death*
- person(s) 11
  - brain death criterion 54–56
  - ceasing to exist 48
  - criteria for death 49, 54–56
  - “dead” 46
  - defined as any creatures with the capacity
    - for self-awareness and thought 33
  - mechanical 36
  - nonexistent who is harmed by death 67
  - nonliving devices as 36
  - Nagel’s argument 64
  - as a phase sortal, not a substance sortal
    - (Wiggins) 31
  - stage approach, and piece approach 34, 35
  - use of term 47
  - with moral significance 36
- person essentialism 5, 32, 33–35, 37, 48
  - and abortion 10, 201, 202, 218
  - and “higher brain criterion” 57
  - and the thinking animal problem 34, 35
  - Transplantation* case 6, 36, 37
- personal death 48–49
  - suffering in anticipation of 73
- personhood 5, 24–38
  - and abortion 201, 203
  - as an episode 31
  - biological conception of 24
  - and persistence over time 25–38
  - psychological conception of 24, 25
  - relationship with humanity 24
  - and self-awareness 202
- personism 33
  - and the comparable lives thesis 200–203
  - and the termination thesis 47
- phase sortals 13, 35
- physicians
  - and assisted suicide 180, 189
  - and criteria for death 49
  - and intentional active euthanasia 178
  - may not give treatment against patient’s will 149
  - pronouncement of death 49
  - removal of patient from life support 178
  - surgery to stop and restart the heart 50
- physiological systems
  - ceasing to function, *see* integration death
  - integrated with or without machines 52
- Pirie, N.W. 19
- Pitcher, G. 135
- planning 3, 37, 66
  - to avoid pain 80
- plants
  - killing 147, 150
  - and seeds analogy 44
- plastids 16
- Plath, Sylvia 173
- Plato 47
- pleasure
  - as an intrinsic good 83, 88, 95, 146
  - Epicurus on 101
  - as lack of suffering 102
  - over the course of our lives 65
  - and pain 8, 80, 88, 132
  - in the past 66
  - trading pain for 102
  - See also* attitudinal pleasures; sensory pleasures
- pluralism 8, 95–97, 120
  - hedonism and preferentialism overlap 95
  - and objectivism 95
  - on posthumous events 100
- Poet* 111, 112, 113
- Poisoned Fetus* 210
- Portmore, Douglas 94



- positive hedonism 8, 88–91, 98, 120
  - and bifurcated comparativism 103
  - and comparativism 88–91, 100, 103, 106, 108
  - explained 88
  - flaws 89
  - and Harm Account 146
  - virtues of 88
- possible worlds, and value of events 83–88
- posthumous events
  - cannot affect us 67, 68, 71, 72, 80, 134, 138
  - death as 80, 120
  - harm us precisely when they occur 134
  - harmlessness of 67, 80
  - indifference about 76
  - setting aside preferences about 97
- posthumous harm thesis 60, 67, 69, 80, 82, 94, 97–119, 129, 131, 135, 139
  - and comparativism 97–119
  - defined 97
  - Epicurean attack on 110
  - positive hedonism and comparativism 100
  - preferentialism and pluralism on 100
- Prado, C. G. 179
- preemptive suicide, or surcease 179
- preferentialism 8, 92–94, 120
  - and antemortem desires 214
  - criticism of 95
  - and desires conditional on their own persistence 93
  - explained 93
  - and hedonism 95
  - on posthumous events 100, 101
  - time aspect 92, 133, 135
  - See also* achievement preferentialism; critical preferentialism; egocentric preferentialism
- pregnancy
  - in incompetent persons 194
  - See also* abortion
- Prenatal Injury* 211, 212, 218
- Present Desire Comparativism 215–217
- present egoism 78–80, 81
  - and hedonism 79
- present-aim theory (Parfit) 110–111, 113
  - and indifference thesis 111
- President's Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavioral Research, legal definition of death 51
- Prevention Principle 202, 210
- priorism 126, 134–136, 138, 139, 207, 212
  - and comparativism 136
- process death 72, 73, 81
  - compared to denouement death 73
- process theory, of fetuses 204
- programmed cell death, *see* apoptosis
- prokaryotes 16
- pronouncement of death
  - by physicians 49
  - medical actions after 49
- properties
  - extrinsic 130, 137
  - intrinsic 130
  - nonrelational 137
- propositions
  - “eternal truths” or not 127
  - as objects of desires 92
  - pleasures connected with false 91
- prosthetic devices 23
- proto-organisms 13, 14
- protolife 21
- prudential interests
  - Epicurus on 145–146
  - Parfit on 28, 167
  - and rationality of choice to die 179–180
- prudential suicide 176, 180
  - Lunatic's Demand* 176
- prudential value 7, 82–97, 119
  - comparativism 82–88, 167
  - pluralism 95–97
  - positive hedonism 88–91
  - preferentialism 92–94
  - as temporally neutral 109
- psychiatric therapy 182
- psychological account of persistence 5, 6, 25–29
  - Cerebral Death* 27, 30, 31
  - Division* 27, 28, 32, 47, 48, 58, 167
  - Duplication* 32
  - and “higher brain criterion” 57
  - Isolation* 28, 31, 33
  - Transplantation* 6, 26, 29, 37
  - Uploading* 32
- psychological connectedness 25, 26, 32, 167
  - lack of 211, 214, 218
  - puzzling cases 26
  - time-relative 168, 169, 170, 208
- psychological continuity 26, 32, 209
  - Brain in Vat* case 31
  - and “higher brain criterion” 57
  - and identity 26, 28, 31, 33, 47
  - puzzling cases 26
- Quinlan, Karen 54
- Quinn, Warren 161, 199, 204–205, 215
- Rachels, James 144, 178
- Ralston, Aron 179, 183
- rationality
  - of aims 94, 96
  - and capacity for self-determination 160

- of egoistic concern 167
  - of euthanasia 9, 171, 178–183, 195
  - of future bias 66
  - of suicide 9, 178–183, 195
- rationality of choice to die 171, 178–183
  - insanity and 180–183
  - prudential considerations 179–180
- Rawls, John 94, 96
- relationships, and properties 130
- religious belief 149
- replication 12, 37
- replicator bodies 12
- replicator-based account of life 12–19, 22
- replicators 21, 22
- reproduction 19
  - by cell fusion 16
  - by fission 16
  - by things that are not alive 18
  - of organisms 14–15
  - or replication by robots 21
  - sexual 16
- reputation 135
- respect
  - for autonomy 158
  - for future time-relative interests 213
  - for interests 161
  - for moral agency and dignity 157, 158, 166
  - for self-determination 159, 161, 166, 190
  - thresholds of 166, 169, 208
- respiration
  - artificial 50, 52, 56
  - control by brain stem 54
  - irreversible cessation of 51
  - resuscitation of 43
  - sustained by technology 50, 52
- respiratory paralysis 42
- responsibility
  - causal account of 68, 79, 124
  - and choosing to die 188
  - retroactive 136
  - of survivors of the dead to provide a painless death 145
- responsiveness 132–134, 138
  - to interests of incompetent subjects 161, 166
- restoration of life 7, 44, 50
  - compared with revival 44, 45, 58
- resurrection 45
- resuscitation 43
- reticular activating system 54
- revival of life 7, 44, 58
  - compared with restoration 44, 45, 58
- rights
  - not to be killed without permission 146
  - violation of victims' 162
  - of women to have abortions 197
- RNA 13
  - of mitochondria 16, 17
- Robins, Eli, St. Louis suicide study 181
- robots
  - devices 19, 23
  - as replicators 23
  - trucks example 19, 20, 21
- Rosenbaum, Stephen 97, 107–109
- Ruben, David-Hillel 130
- Russian roulette 177
- sacrifice
  - of animals 164
  - of potential lives of fetuses 200
  - suicide as 172, 174, 175, 176–177
- Samson* 176
- sanctity of human life 149
- Savior* 111, 112
- Scanlon, Thomas 94
- Schiavo, Terry 6, 54
- schizophrenia, and suicidal intent 181
- Schneidman, Edwin 182
- Schopenhauer, Arthur 183
- Schwarz, Stephen 199
- science fiction 29, 36
- selective breeding 22
- self
  - salient desires and the 94
  - See also* future self
- self-awareness
  - animals with 25, 163
  - capacity for 25, 31, 33, 48
  - loss of capacity for 57
  - machines with 29, 36
  - as mark of moral standing 36
  - and personhood 202
  - and value of human beings 150, 152
  - and wrongness of killing 146, 165
- self-determination 96, 97
  - de facto* 160
  - de jure* 160
  - development in children 161
  - failure of 160
  - moral 160, 187
  - respect for 159, 161, 166, 187, 190
  - undermining by taking drugs 159
  - and value of human beings 150, 152, 164
  - and wrongness of killing 146, 147, 148
- self-digestion, *see* autolysis
- self-murder 172
- senescence
  - premature 41
  - replicative or cellular 40, 41, 57
  - telomere shrinking as trigger for 40
- sensory pleasures 90, 95

- sentient beings
  - euthanizing 156, 185, 193
  - interests of merely 166
  - intrinsic value of 150, 152, 153, 155, 166
  - merely 155, 166
  - moral status of merely 166
  - and wrongness of killing 147, 148, 153, 154, 185, 189
- sentiment 165
- severe mental impairment
  - and the Consent Account 160
  - killing infants with 153, 165
  - and threshold of respect 166
- siboglinid tube worms 17
- Silverstein, Harry 107–109, 129, 136
- skin 13, 50
- slavery 158
- sleeping
  - subject value when 151
  - unconscious desire to live 216
- slugs, slime-mold cells 15, 16, 47
- Socrates 4, 42, 46
  - death 41, 73, 174, 175
- somatic cells 41
  - Hayflick's limit 40
  - replicative or cellular senescence 40
- species chauvinism 150
- states of affairs
  - beliefs about past or future 90
  - comparativism and 120
  - improbable 116
  - "negative" 115, 121
- stem cells 40
- sterility, of organisms 15
- Stone, Jim 199
- Strategic Sacrifice* 102
- Stretton, Dean 208
- stroke, comas caused by 55
- subarachnoid hemorrhage 55
- subject
  - good-making characteristics 151
  - identifying who is harmed by death 4, 67, 71, 80, 122, 129
  - intrinsic value of 9, 151
  - problem of the 69, 122, 129–134
  - temporal relations with 137
  - who never existed cannot be harmed 210
  - See also* competence; incompetence
- subject value
  - of animals and suffering 156
  - deprivation of 152
  - as dignity 157
  - quantifiability of 157, 166, 170, 186
  - sacrificing 155, 185
  - and suicide or euthanasia 184
  - transience of 151–152
  - versus welfare 155, 184, 185
  - and welfare 149–150
  - zero or negative 156
- Subject Value Account of wrongness of killing
  - 9, 144, 149–158, 170
  - and abortion 197, 198
  - absolutist version 157, 185, 195
  - Heedless* 153
  - Highest Subject Value Account 152–155, 163, 165, 170, 185, 198
  - Hybrid Account 155, 185, 198
  - intrinsic value 150–157
  - and Kantianism 157–158
  - Subject Value Principle 152
  - and suicide and euthanasia 9, 185, 195
- subsequentism 126, 129–134, 138, 139
  - and deprivation harm 131
  - and problem of the subject 131
- substance sortals 31, 35, 204
- suffering 8
  - in anticipation of personal death 73
  - causes of 179
  - death as an escape from 179, 183
  - death prevents 102
  - in dying process 71
  - euthanasia to relieve 178
  - harm only if it causes 71, 74, 79
  - mental 179, 182
  - modifying our desires to minimize 75
  - pleasure as lack of 102
  - relief of an animal's 156
  - See also* pain
- Suffering Man's Coma* 104, 106, 109
- Suffering Man's Death* 105, 106, 119, 133
- suicide 9, 171–196
  - ambiguities 177
  - conditions for the act 172
  - Death by Deviant Causation* 173
  - defining 172
  - as directly wrong 183
  - Epicurean view 145
  - and euthanasia 178
  - and intent 173, 174, 175, 176, 181, 182
  - Kant on 158
  - means of 180, 189, 195
  - and mental impairment 179, 180, 195
  - moral permissibility of 9, 143, 171
  - motivations 176–177
  - negative connotations of 172
  - and negative hedonism 102
  - rationality of 9, 179
  - risk of failure 180
  - or sacrifice 172, 174, 175
  - St. Louis study 181

- statistics on US 171
- Unintentional Suicide* 187, 188
- uses of term 172–178
- varieties of 175–177
- which harms others 190
- See also* active suicide; altruistic suicide; assisted suicide; attempted suicide; behavior; suicidal; intervention in suicide and euthanasia; passive suicide; preemptive suicide; prudential suicide; surcease
- Suicide Bomber* 177
- suicide prevention
  - assumptions in 182
  - permissible cases 191
  - rationality of 190
- “superorganisms” 15
- surcease, or preemptive suicide 179
- survivors of the dead
  - responsibility to provide a painless death 145
  - suffering of 145
- See also* dead survivors view
- suspended animation 44, 45, 55
  - Fred’s case* 99
  - intrinsic value of subject in 151
- suspension of life 44–46
  - Corpse Reassembler* 45
  - Disassembler-Reassembler* 44
  - and restoration of life 44, 50
  - and revival of life 6, 44, 58
- Symmetry Argument 60–67
  - life extension 63
  - My Past or Future Operations* 65
  - nonexistence 61–63
- taste 108
- Tay-Sachs disease 200
- technology
  - and brain death from artificial integration death 53
  - and capacity definition of life 19
  - to extend the human lifespan 22
  - to restart lives 44
  - to sustain respiration and circulation 50
- telomerase 40
- telomeres 40, 41
  - of people 100 years old 41
- temporal neutrality 109, 111
- temporal relativism 109–114
  - interests 109–114
- temporal stage approach 35, 36
- teratoma 24
- termination thesis 46–47, 69
- termites 15
- thalamus
  - ceases to function 56, 59
  - consciousness mediated by the 54
  - thinking, loss of capacity for clear 159
- thinking animal problem 33–35
  - stage approach 35
- Thomas Aquinas, St. 150, 188
- Thomas, Lewis, *The Lives of a Cell* 15, 17
- thought experiments 6, 19
- threshold death 43, 44, 48, 58
  - brain stem damage 50
  - and brain (stem) death 53
- time
  - aspect of choosing to die 179, 180
  - aspect of comparativism 117
  - aspect of desire fulfillment 92
  - aspect of interests 87, 117–119
  - aspect of prudential value 109–114
  - fuzzy boundaries 123, 137
  - when death happens 123
  - when harm of death is received 4, 67, 80, 122, 128
- Time Relative Account of Killing (McMahan) 208, 210, 211
- Time Relative Harm Account 166–169
  - Interest Relativism and 168, 169, 208
  - and psychological connectedness 168, 169
- timing puzzle 8, 67–75, 82, 122–139
  - death cannot affect us 68–71
  - death cannot harm us 71–75
  - Epicurean challenge 122–126
  - reconsiderations 138
  - solutions 126–138, 139
- tissues, damage to 41
- Tooley, Michael 215, 216
- torture, *Fred’s case* 99, 100
- tranquility (*ataraxia*) 62, 73, 75–80, 81
  - desire adaptation 75–78
  - present egoism 78–80
- “transhumanism” 22
- Transplantation* 6, 37
  - animalist account and 29
  - mindist account 31
  - and psychological connectedness 26
  - and psychological continuity 26, 31, 33
- treatment, Subject Value Principle of 152
- type–token distinction, events 85–87, 115
- unborn, the 133
- unconsciousness 49
  - coma as continuous 55
  - death during 72
  - Fred’s* 185
- Uniform Determination of Death Act (US) 51
- Unintentional Suicide* 187, 188

- United Kingdom, criteria of death 39, 51–52, 58
- United States
  - brain death standards 50–51, 58
  - criteria of death 39, 51, 52
  - Department of Health and Human Services, statistics on cause of death 171
- Uploading* 23, 47
  - animalist and psychological account 32, 33
  - mindist account 31
- value
  - absolute 184–188
  - and desire to live 215–217
  - negative and lack of harm 114, 115
  - personal and impersonal 150
  - See also* intrinsic value; prudential value; subject value
- value gradualism 204
- value judgments, and difficulty of comparing goods 84
- values
  - by which I shape my life 159
  - changing 110
  - relative of two possible lives 127
  - trade-off in suicide 184
- Van Inwagen, Peter 30
- vegetative state 54, 55
  - intrinsic value of people in a 151
  - See also* persistent vegetative state
- Velleman, David 156
- Vindictive Vicky* 177
- viruses 12
  - and self-destruction of the immune system 40
  - status of 14
- vital processes 5, 14
  - artificially sustained in brain dead bodies 54
  - capacity to maintain itself through 45
  - continuing after ending of existence 47–48
  - decline before ending 43
  - discontinuation of 46–47, 58
  - ending of 41, 70
  - of organisms 13, 37
  - progressively extinguished 42
  - in suspension 7, 14, 58
  - that sustain minds, persons, and human beings may differ 49
- “wantons” (Frankfurt) 96
- Warren, Mary Ann 61
- Warwick, Kevin 23
- welfare 7, 71, 132
  - analyses of 8, 119
  - capacity for 133
  - commensurability problem 155
  - effect on future 169, 170
  - and interests 82, 119, 206–208
  - interpersonal comparisons 88
  - negative hedonism 101–103, 120, 125
  - pluralism 95–97, 120
  - positive hedonism 88–91, 98, 120
  - preferentialism 92–94, 120
  - and present egoism 78, 81
  - and subject value 149–150
  - suicide for own or that of others 176
  - in terms of desire fulfillment 92–94
  - time aspect 87, 109–114, 125, 208
  - versus intrinsic value of merely sentient beings 155
  - versus subject value 155, 184, 185
- well-being 8, 82, 120
  - of another important for its own sake 77
  - desires which do not contribute to our 94
  - incurring harm lowers 133
  - present and posthumous events 135
  - and responsiveness at T 132
  - and subject value 149–150
- Wiggins, David 31
- will 96
  - benefit against one’s 149
  - capacity to 159
  - conflict with that of others 160
  - imposition by another 160
  - killing against one’s 158
  - respect for 148, 187
  - and self-determination 160
- will to live, loss of the 189
- wrong, without harm 97, 148–149
- wrongness
  - of assisting in suicide and euthanasia 171, 177, 183–189
  - direct or indirect 143, 171, 177, 183, 197
  - of euthanasia, Absolutist Argument 184–188, 189
  - of murder varies with the harm done to its victim 147
  - of suicide, Absolutist Argument 184–188
- wrongness of killing 8, 143, 144, 197
  - animals 163–165
  - Combined Account 9, 144, 161–170, 186
  - comparativism and 166–169
  - Consent Account 9, 144, 158–160, 170
  - cross-species claims 155, 163, 165
  - degree of 159
  - differences regarding competence of people killed 162
  - effects on victim 143, 170
  - exceptions to 197
  - features of 143
  - Harm Account 9, 144–149, 170, 198–200, 206
  - hierarchy thesis 147, 148, 150, 165, 170

Index

253

Interest Relativism 169	<i>Young Cancer Patient</i> 213
Kant on 158	Young, Robert 194
<i>prima facie</i> directly 143, 197	youth
progressive 157	dying in 100, 127
Subject Value Account 9, 144, 149–158, 170,	suicide in 182, 216
197, 198	
subjects later in life than earlier 152	zombies, mindless 34
versus harmfulness 210	zygotes 132, 197, 204