



110 Stockton Street
Charleston, WV 25387

“First Do No Harm?” Contemporary Medical Practices that Threaten the Lives of Vulnerable People

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:15 Part 1: Introduction

- A. Welcome and housekeeping details
- B. Orientation to the workshop’s presenters, derivation, format, and purpose
- C. Brief statement of the main issue at hand, and groups of people most affected by it

9:15 – 10:30 Part 2: The Interconnected Realities of Devaluation, Deathmaking, & Medical Deathmaking

- A. Social and societal devaluation
- B. Deathmaking of devalued people
- C. Deathmaking of devalued people by “medical” means

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:00 Part 3: “Quality of Life”: Opposed Ideologies that Govern Life and Death Medical Decisions

- A. The “Quality of Life” ideology
 - 1. Origins and evolution of the “Quality of Life” concept
 - 2. Contemporary “Quality of Life” ideology, and what it implies for devalued people
- B. The “Equality (Sanctity) of Life” ideology

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch on your own

1:00 – 2:30 Part 4: Appropriation of “Quality of Life” Thinking by Contemporary Medicine

- A. How and why “Quality of Life” thinking found its way into medical practice
- B. Common ways medical “Quality of Life” thinking is actualized
 - 1. Defining a life as “Futile,” then limiting and withholding treatment
 - 2. Redefining care as “Treatment” that can be withheld or withdrawn
 - 3. Medically-mediated active killing, e.g., via “Euthanasia,” “Physician Assisted Suicide,” Selective Abortion, and other means

2:30 – 2.45 Break

2:45 – 4:00 Part 5: Crafting the Mindset to Combat Medical Deathmaking

- A. Come to decision regarding one’s stance on “Quality of Life” vs. “Equality of Life”
- B. Be aware of language traps, and refrain from adopting deathmaking jargon
- C. Appreciate the validity of the euthanasia slippery slope

4:00 – 4:30 Part 6: Conclusion

- A. Ways to learn more about this issue and others related to it
- B. Closing remarks
- C. Workshop evaluation

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