

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910457513303321
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Titolo	American bioethics : crossing human rights and health law boundaries / / George J. Annas
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford ; ; New York : , : Oxford University Press, , [2005]
ISBN	0-19-539029-6 1-280-53445-1 0-19-974809-8 1-60256-847-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xvi, 244 pages)
Disciplina	174/.957/0973
Soggetti	Human rights - Moral and ethical aspects Medical laws and legislation - Moral and ethical aspects Medical laws and legislation - Moral and ethical aspects - United States Bioethics - United States Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published: 2005.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 207-236) and index.
Nota di contenuto	INTRODUCTION; I.BIOETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS; 1.BIOETHICS AND BIOTERRORISM; 2.HUMAN RIGHTS AND HEALTH; 3.THE MAN ON THE MOON; 4.THE ENDANGERED HUMAN; 5.THE RIGHT TO HEALTH; 6. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT; II.BIOETHICS AND HEALTH LAW; 7.CONJOINED TWINS; 8.PATIENT RIGHTS; 9.WHITE COAT POLICE; 10.PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION; 11.THE SHADOWLANDS; 12.WASTE AND LONGING
Sommario/riassunto	Bioethics was 'born in the USA' and the values American bioethics embrace are based on American law. This text crosses the borders between bioethics and law, but moves beyond the domestic law/bioethics struggles for dominance by exploring attempts to articulate universal principles on human rights.