Record Nr. UNINA9910818180203321 Autore Dwyer James G. <1961-> Titolo Moral status and human life: the case for children's superiority / / James G. Dwyer Cambridge;; New York,: Cambridge University Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-511-85264-9 1-107-21763-6 1-282-91872-9 9786612918728 0-511-93146-8 0-511-93280-4 0-511-92761-4 0-511-92507-7 0-511-77960-7 0-511-93012-7 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (viii, 212 pages): digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 305.23 Soggetti Children Social status - Moral and ethical aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto What is moral status and why does it matter? -- How is moral status determined? -- Selecting criteria of moral status -- Problems in applying a multicriterial approach -- Applying a multicriteria moral status test to adults and children -- Legal, policy, and moral implications of children's superiority. Sommario/riassunto Are children of equal, lesser, or perhaps even greater moral importance than adults? This work of applied moral philosophy develops a comprehensive account of how adults as moral agents ascribe moral status to beings - ourselves and others - and on the basis of that

account identifies multiple criteria for having moral status. It argues that proper application of those criteria should lead us to treat children as of greater moral importance than adults. This conclusion presents a

basis for critiquing existing social practices, many of which implicitly presuppose that children occupy an inferior status, and for suggesting how government policy, law, and social life might be different if it reflected an assumption that children are actually of superior status.