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of bioethics; Moral tension and the centrality of forbearance rights; Conflicting rights and obligations; TEYKU: the opacity of some problems to moral reasoning; 4. The Context of Health Care: Persons, Possessions, and States; The special place of persons; A bias in favor of persons?; Potentiality and probability; An excursus regarding animals Infants, the profoundly retarded, and social senses of "person" Severely defective newborns: weakening the protections of the social role of person; Being a person: in the strict sense and in various social senses; Sleeping persons and the problem of embodiment; Owning people, animals, and things; Endangered species, the Coliseum, and the bioethics of ecology; Ownership: a summary; States and their authority; The limited moral authority of the secular state; Toward Utopia; A postmodern reflection on property, states, and health care policy; 5. The Languages of Medicalization; Shaping reality The four languages of medicine Disease language as evaluative; Disease language as descriptive; Disease language as explanatory; Disease language as shaping social reality; The social construction of medical reality and the challenge of clinical judgment; Seeing a problem as a medical, rather than as a legal, religious, or educational problem; The democratization of medical reality: some conclusions; 6. The Endings and Beginnings of Persons: Death, Abortion, and Infanticide; The definition of death; Bodies, minds, and persons; Embodiments; Living and dying with less than absolute certainty The development of a whole-brain definition of death

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Sommario/riassunto

This revised second edition explores the full scope and content of secular bioethics. Such issues as abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, genetic engineering, health care reform and distributive justice are given a new treatment within a reassessment of the possibilities for a secular bioethics.

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