# CONTENTS

#### PREFACE ix

# 1. INTRODUCTION Tom Regan 3

§1 Killing and Letting Die

#### I. META-ETHICS

§2 Conceptual Analysis
§3 Is There a Correct Method for Answering Moral Questions?
§4 Some Ways Not to Answer Moral Questions
§5 The Ideal Moral Judgment
§6 No Double Standards Allowed

#### **II. NORMATIVE ETHICS**

§7 Consequentialist Theories §8 Utilitarianism
§9 Nonconsequentialist Theories §10 Legal and Moral Rights
§11 Legal and Moral Justice §12 What Are Rights?
§13 Negative and Positive Rights §14 The Criteria of Right-Possession §15 What Beings Possess What Moral Rights? §16 When Rights Conflict §17 Moral Atomism and Holism §18 The Value of Life §19 A Final Set of Questions

## 2. EUTHANASIA James Rachels 35

#### I. INTRODUCTION

§1 The Central Case §2 Related Cases §3 Some Distinctions §4 The Main Issues 5

15

#### xiv Contents

#### II. AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

§5 Attitudes from the Ancient World §6 The Early Christian View §7 Other Religions and Cultures §8 Dissenters
§9 Modern Secular Thought §10 Recent Developments
§11 The Position of the American Medical Association

#### III. ARGUMENTS SUPPORTING THE MORALITY OF ACTIVE EUTHANASIA 47

\$12 The Importance of Argument \$13 The Argument from Mercy \$14 The Argument from the Golden Rule

#### IV. ARGUMENTS OPPOSING THE MORALITY OF ACTIVE EUTHANASIA

\$15 The Argument from the Wrongness of Killing
\$16 Religious Arguments
\$17 The Possibility of Unexpected Cures

#### V. THE QUESTION OF LEGALIZATION

§18 How Mercy Killers Are Treated in Court §19 The Case of Karen Ann Quinlan and Other Related Cases §20 An Argument for Legalizing Active Euthanasia: The Right to Liberty §21 An Argument Against Legalizing Active Euthanasia: The Slippery Slope §22 How to Legalize Active Euthanasia

#### VI. CONCLUSION

NOTES 74 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 75

#### **3. SUICIDE** Tom L. Beauchamp 77

#### I. THE DEFINITION OF SUICIDE

§1 Some Conceptual Difficulties
 §2 Standard Definitions
 §3 The Inadequacies of Standard Definitions
 §4 The
 Problem of Treatment Refusal
 §5 The Problem of Sacrificial
 Deaths
 §6 Conclusion

#### II. PRINCIPLES RELEVANT TO DISCUSSING THE MORALITY OF SUICIDE

§7 The Principle of Utility as a Beneficence Principle
§8 The Principle of Autonomy as a Principle of Respect
§9 The Principle of Respect for Life \$10 The Theological Principle

73

78

89

54

# III. TWO OPPOSED PHILOSOPHIES OF SUICIDE

§11 The Position of St. Thomas Aquinas §12 The Position of David Hume §13 A Defense of the Utilitarian and **Autonomy Positions** 

#### IV. PROBLEMS OF SUICIDE INTERVENTION 106 §14 Nonautonomous Suicides §15 Paternalism and Autonomous Suicides §16 Moral Issues in Suicide Intervention

V. CONCLUSION

NOTES 118 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 122

# √4. AT ARMS' LENGTH: VIOLENCE AND WAR Jan Narveson 125

I.	INTRODUCTION §1 The Way Things Are §2 Definitions	125
II.	MORALITY AND VIOLENCE §3 The "State of Nature" §4 The "Social Contract"	129
III.	PACIFISM §5 How Wrong Is Violence? §6 Tactical Pacifism §7 Ideal Pacifism	137
IV.	THE SCOPE OF DEFENSE §8 Negative and Positive Rights	142
V.	NATIONALISM AND THE RIGHTS OF STATES §9 How States Are Different §10 And How They Are Not §11 Power and Politics	145
VI.	NUCLEAR WAR §12 A New Era §13 The Stakes §14 "Defense" in the Nuclear Era §15 Evaluating Deterrence §16 Deterrence and Threatening the Innocent: The Relevance of Intentions §17 A Special Case: The End of Humankind	150

#### xvi Contents

\$18 Self-Defense and Deterrence
 \$19 Threatening and
 Doing: The Paradox of Deterrence
 \$20 How Much
 Deterrence?
 \$21 Sizing up the Enemy's Intentions

#### VII. POSTSCRIPT

SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER READING 173

# 5. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT Hugo Adam Bedau 175

§1 Introduction

#### I. THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 177

\$2 The Doctrine of Natural Rights \$3 Forfeiting the Right to Life \$4 Difficulties in Locke's Theory \$5 The Dignity of Persons \$6 The Mind of the Murderer \$7 Difficulties in Kant's Theory \$8 Utilitarianism and the Death Penalty \$9 Conclusion

#### II. THE MORALITY OF PUNISHMENT

\$10 The Nature of Punishment \$11 The Right to Punish\$12 Modes of Punishment \$13 The Value of Human Life and Moral Principles

#### III. THE INDIGNITY AND SEVERITY OF THE DEATH PENALTY

§14 Is Capital Punishment an Untimely and Undignified
Death? §15 Grading the Severity of Punishments
§16 Why Death Is More Severe than Imprisonment §17 The
Indignity of Corporal Punishments

#### IV. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AND SOCIAL DEFENSE

§18 The Analogy with Self-Defense §19 Preventing versus Deterring Crime §20 The Death Penalty as a Crime Preventive §21 The Death Penalty as a Crime Deterrent §22 A Cost/Benefit Analysis of the Death Penalty §23 What if Executions Did Deter? §24 How Many Guilty Lives Is One Innocent Life Worth?

#### V. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AND RETRIBUTIVE JUSTICE 202

§25 Crime Must Be Punished §26 Is Murder Alone to Be
Punished by Death? §27 Are All Murders to Be Punished by
Death? §28 Is Death Sufficiently Retributive?
§29 Differential Severity Does Not Require Executions
§30 Equal Justice and Capital Punishment

171

185

190

#### VI. CONCLUSION

## 6. WHITHER BABY DOE? Donald VanDeVeer 213

I.	INTRODUCTION §1 The Questions §2 Matters of Language §3 The Concept of the Defective §4 The Relevance of Defects §5 Types of Defects or Anomalous Conditions §6 Direct and Indirect Duties	213
II.	IS THERE A NEONATAL RIGHT TO LIFE? §7 Neonatal Right to Life: Forfeit and Waiver §8 Neonatal Right to Life: Justified Infringement §9 The No-Right-to-Infringe Argument	225
III.	NEONATAL MORAL STANDING §10 The Relevance of Sentience §11 The Relevance of Being Human §12 The Relevance of Potentiality §13 Elements of a Theory	233
IV.	THE ARENA OF PUBLIC POLICY §14 Public Stands, Political Proposals, Presuppositions §15 On Appeals to the Sanctity of Life, the Human Life Bill, the Child Abuse Amendments NOTES 252 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 254	241

# 7. ABORTION Joel Feinberg 256

#### I. THE STATUS OF THE FETUS

§1 Human Beings and Persons
 §2 Normative versus
 Descriptive Personhood
 §3 The Criterion of Commonsense
 Personhood
 §4 Proposed Criteria of Moral Personhood
 §5 Summary and Conclusion

#### xviii Contents

#### II. THE PROBLEM OF THE CONFLICT OF CLAIMS

§6 Formulation of the "Right to an Abortion"§7 PossibleGrounds for the Woman's Right§8 Summary and Conclusion

#### III. POSTSCRIPT

1

NOTES 291 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 292

# 8. THE MORAL PERPLEXITIES OF FAMINE AND WORLD HUNGER Onora O'Neill 294

§1 Are Famine and World Hunger New Moral Problems?

#### I. SOME CRITERIA FOR MORAL ARGUMENT

§2 Moral Theories and Moral Problems
 §3 Moral Theories and Morally Acceptable Theories
 §4 The Scope of Moral Theories
 §5 Accuracy and Precision in Moral Theories
 §6 Limiting the Discussion

#### **II. THE FACTS OF FAMINE**

§7 The Look of Famine §8 The Extent of Famine
§9 Controversies about Avoiding Famines §10 Malthusian
Controversies §11 Developmentalist Rejoinders §12 Social and Moral Inquiry

# III. UTILITARIAN APPROACHES TO FAMINE QUESTIONS 308 §13 Scientific and Humane Utilitarianism §14 Some Utilitarian Famine Controversies §15 Resolving Utilitarian Disputse shout Famine 616 Utilitarian on Justice and

Disputes about Famine §16 Utilitarians on Justice and Beneficence §17 Global Justice in a Utilitarian Framework

#### IV. KANTIAN APPROACHES TO SOME FAMINE PROBLEMS 319

§18 A Simplified Account of Kant's Ethics §19 The Formula of the End in Itself §20 Using Others as Mere Means
§21 Treating Others as Ends in Themselves §22 Justice and Beneficence in Kant's Thought §23 Justice to the Vulnerable in Kantian Thinking §24 Beneficence to the Vulnerable in Kantian Thinking §25 The Scope of Kantian Deliberations about Famine and Hunger

300

296

V. UTILITARIAN AND KANTIAN MORAL REASONING 329 §26 Respect for Life in Utilitarian Reasoning §27 Respect for Life in Kantian Reasoning

#### VI. PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

NOTES 335 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 336

IS HUMAN LIFE OF UNIOUE VALUE?

# 9. ANIMALS AND THE VALUE OF LIFE Peter Singer 338

#### I. INTRODUCTION

§1 First Preliminary: Other Issues in the Treatment of Animals \$2 Three Questions \$3 Second Preliminary: The Value of Human Life

II.	IS HUMAN LIFE OF UNIQUE VALUE?	
	<ul> <li>§4 Is Consciousness Uniquely Human?</li> <li>§5 Mortal Lives and Immortal Souls</li> <li>§6 God's Rights and Humanity's Dominion</li> <li>§7 Human Ends and Animal Means</li> <li>§8 Speciesism</li> </ul>	
III.	THE VALUE OF A PERSON'S LIFE	355
	<ul> <li>§9 What Is a Person? §10 Utilitarianism and the Value of a Person's Life §11 Do Persons Have a Right to Life?</li> <li>§12 The Inherent Value of a "Subject of a Life"</li> <li>§13 Which Animals Are People?</li> </ul>	
IV.	ANIMAL LIFE	364
	<ul> <li>\$14 Consciousness as the Basis for Extending the Right to Life to Animals</li> <li>\$15 Classical Utilitarianism and the Value of Animal Life</li> <li>\$16 The Replaceability Argument</li> </ul>	
V.	CONCLUSIONS	371
	<ul><li>\$17 Theoretical Issues</li><li>\$18 Three Questions Answered</li><li>\$19 Concluding Practical Postscript</li></ul>	
	NOTES 375 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 378	

332



# 10. THE SEARCH FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL ETHIC J. Baird Callicott 381

#### I. INTRODUCTION

\$1 The Environmental Crisis \$2 "Facts," Values, and Criteria for the Evaluation of Environmental Ethics

#### II. HOW NOT TO DO ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

§3 The Judeo-Christian Tradition: Despotism §4 The Judeo-Christian Tradition: Stewardship \$5 The Environmental Ethic of the Judeo-Christian Tradition \$6 A Critique of the Judeo-Christian Stewardship Environmental §7 The Evolutionary Connection: Kinship Ethic §8 The Ecological Connection: Symbiosis §9 Two Ecological Metaphors §10 Three Secular Approaches to Environmental **§11** Traditional and Protracted Humanism Ethics §12 A Critique of the Traditional and Protracted Humanism **§14** First-Phase Extensionism Approach §13 Extensionism §15 A Critique of First-Phase Extensionism in Relation to Environmental Problems §16 Second-Phase Extensionism §17 A Critique of Second-Phase Extensionism as an **Environmental Ethic** 

#### III. AN ECOCENTRIC ENVIRONMENTAL ETHIC

§18 A Plea for a Holistic Approach to Environmental Ethics
§19 Ethics as an Evolutionary Paradox §20 The Paradox
Resolved §21 The Double Correlative Relationship of
Morality and Society §22 Transition from Humanistic to
Environmental Ethics §23 Holism §24 The Dangers of an
Untempered Holistic Environmental Ethic §25 The Relation
of the Land Ethic to Prior Accretions §26 The Place of
Human Beings in the Land Ethic §27 Intra- and Interspecies
Relationships in the Land Ethic §28 The Place of Individual
Nonhumans in the Land Ethic §29 Modern Life in
Accordance with an Ecosystemic Environmental Ethic

#### IV. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

NOTES 420 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING 423

INDEX 425

403

381

384