

Human Dignity and Bioethics



Essays Commissioned by
the President's Council on Bioethics



A Colloquium at Georgetown University

Co-sponsored by the Office of the President of the University
and the Kennedy Institute of Ethics

*Is "human dignity" a
useful and illuminating
concept in bioethics? Or
is it a useless one – a "fig
leaf" that camouflages
unconvincing arguments
and biases?*

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Riggs Library, 3rd floor, The Healy Building
37th and O Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Welcoming Remarks

John J. DeGioia, Ph.D.

President, Georgetown University

Madison Powers, J.D., D.Phil.

Director, Kennedy Institute of Ethics

Introduction to the Volume and the Colloquium Panel

Edmund D. Pellegrino, M.D.

John Carroll Professor Emeritus of Medicine and Medical Ethics, Georgetown University
Chairman, President's Council on Bioethics

Remarks by Panel Members

Tom Beauchamp, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Philosophy, and Senior Research Scholar, Kennedy Institute of Ethics

Alisa Carse, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, and Senior Fellow, Curriculum and Pedagogy, Center for Social Justice

Patrick J. Deneen, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Government, Markos and Eleni Tsakopoulos-Kounalakis Chair
in Hellenic Studies, and Director, Tocqueville Forum on the Roots of American Democracy

The President's Council's latest publication addresses such core issues as "human dignity and the practice of medicine," "dignity and modern culture," and "human nature and the future of man." Our authors — Council Members (present and former) such as Edmund Pellegrino, Alfonso Gómez-Lobo, Leon Kass and Gil Meilaender, as well as prominent scholars and public intellectuals outside the Council, including Daniel Dennett, David Gelernter, Martha Nussbaum, and Richard John Neuhaus — engage in a probing, critical examination of "human dignity." The result is a publication unique among the products of national commissions on bioethics.

**For questions, please call Diane M. Gianelli at the President's Council on Bioethics at 202-296-6588.
You may email her at Diane.Gianelli@bioethics.gov**