BIOETHICS AND THE HUMANITIES:

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS

R.S. DOWNIE AND JANE MACNAUGHTON



BIOMEDICAL LAW AND ETHICS LIBRARY
SERIES EDITOR - SHEILA A.M. MCLEAN

Contents

	Foreword Preface Acknowledgements	ix xi xiii
	Introduction	1
	RT I pethics and the humanities	5
1	Bioethics and the medical humanities	7
	What are the 'medical humanities'? 7 What can the medical humanities contribute to bioethics? 8 Some history: Dr John Gregory 15 A mind of one's own: independence, individuality and personal development 18 Means or ends? 24 Conclusions 27	
PART II Medical humanities: the critical function of philosophy		29
2	Moral philosophy and bioethics	31
	Bioethics: recent history 31 Bioethics: the four principles 33 Beneficence, supererogation and altruism 36 Autonomy, dignity and respect in Kant 41 Criticisms of the 'four-principles' approach 44	

	Casuistry 45	
	Some objections to casuistry 47	
	Is casuistry (as natural jurisprudence) a branch of philosophy? 51	
	Compassion, the virtues and self-development 51 Interpretation, culture and medical ethics 54	
	Conclusions 58	
	Conclusions 50	
3	Logic and epistemology	59
	Logic 60	
	Definition 63	
	Two examples: disease and health 70	
	Epistemology 80	
	Qualitative research 81	
	Conclusions 90	
4	Political philosophy and bioethics	91
	Health-care ethics and public health ethics 91	
	Justice and utility in public health medicine 92	
	Ethical problems of health promotion: the concept of health 98	
	Public health and 'the organised efforts of society' 101	
	An Enemy of the People 106	
	Conclusions 107	
5	Medical half-truths	109
3	Micucai han-u utiis	109
	The idea of a profession 109	
	Medical education and attitudinal change 117	
	Quality of life 120	
	Conclusions 124	
PA	RT III	
Me	edical humanities: the supplementary function of	
	erature and the arts	125
6	Literature and the ethical perspective	127
	Transferable skills 127	
	The humanistic perspective 132	
	Self-awareness 136	
	Joint investigation 137	

	Coping with the particular situation 137 Scientific understanding and madness: an extended example 1 Literary understanding and madness 143 Conclusions 148	39
7	Arts in health	149
	Some projects 150	
	The artists 153	
	The participants 160	
	The context 163	
	Conclusions 165	
8	Teaching and research	167
	Medical humanities: choice or compulsion? 167	
	Who should the teachers be? 173	
	Medical humanities: research 176	
	Conclusions 177	
ΡΔ	RT IV	
General conclusions		179
	i e	177
9	A humanistic broadening of bioethics	181
	Index	40*
	-11-11-11-11	185