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Sulmasy, Daniel P
**Speaking of the value of life.**
Kennedy Institute of Ethics journal 2011 Jun; 21(2): 181-99
**Abstract:** The phrase 'the value of life' is important in bioethics, particularly for those who hold the traditional views that life has intrinsic value and that the distinction between killing and allowing to die is valid. Ambiguities in the meaning of 'the value of life,' however, can lead to errors in medical ethical analysis by those who hold these traditional views. This essay notes three sources of such ambiguity: (1) three senses of the verb 'is,' (2) the difference between the transcendent and the transcendental, and (3) the difference between the transcendental and the empirical. On the basis of these distinctions, several conclusions are drawn: that the value of life is transcendental, not transcendent, both finite and priceless, that decisions to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatments are always judgments about the qualities of a person's life, so one cannot universally condemn "quality of life judgments," that the traditional distinction between killing and allowing to die tracks the distinction between the transcendental and the empirical, that "life itself" is not a benefit of treatment, and that foregoing treatments that are not futile can be consistent with respect for the value of life.

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Wald, Nicholas J; Oppenheimer, Peter
**Discounting the value of life.**
Journal of medical screening 2011; 18(1): 1

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Document 3
Byk, Christian
**[The concept of dignity and life science law: a symbolic, dynamic value at the heart of the social construction of man]. = Le concept de dignité et le droit des sciences de la vie: une valeur symbolique et dynamique au coeur de la construction sociale de l'homme.**
**Abstract:** Included in human rights law just after the Second World War, dignity is the quality common to all people in that it symbolises their human condition. Inherent to each person, it is therefore independent of any other personal and random condition (physical state, origin, colour, religion...) just as it is independent of social conditions (a person's dignity cannot be questioned by society). However, the very context of this recognition—–in the aftermath of the defeat of Nazism—–emphasises the fact that it was not something evident in human history. So there is in this manifestation of the international community a strong political sign which makes dignity as much a construction of man as a quality consubstantial with his nature. A symbol of the human condition, dignity is therefore also a dynamic value, a combat value. As such, it forces us to wonder about what belongs to the human sphere and also about the particular responsibility which springs for every man and for mankind, from the dignity with which he is invested.
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Yorke, Jon, ed.
THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND THE VALUE OF LIFE: ORIENTATIONS IN LAW, POLITICS AND ETHICS
Call number: K3252 .R54 2010

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Lazarev, Nikolai
The intrinsic value of human life: a critique of Life's Dominion

Document 6
Cordner, Christopher
Life and death matters: losing a sense of the value of human beings
Abstract: The essay combines a specific and a more general theme. In attacking 'the doctrine of the sanctity of human life' Singer takes himself thereby to be opposing the conviction that human life has special value. I argue that this conviction goes deep in our lives in many ways that do not depend on what Singer identifies as central to that 'doctrine', and that his attack therefore misses its main target. I argue more generally that Singer's own moral philosophy affords only an impoverished and distorted sense of the value of human life and human beings. In purporting to dig below the supposedly illusion-ridden surface of our thinking about value, Singer in fact often leads us away from the robust terrain of our lived experience into rhetorical, and sometimes brutal, fantasy.

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Journal of Risk and Uncertainty 2004 September; 29(2): 159-180

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Update [to: Keene v. Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc: on the value of life with mental retardation. Mental Retardation 2003 October; 41(5): 389-391]
Mental Retardation 2003 December; 41(6): 419

Document 9
Nord, Erik; Menzel, Paul; Richardson, Jeff
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The value of life according to "law as a way to survive"
Abstract: Law as a Way to Survive is a comprehensive evolution-theory orientated philosophy of law and state that is tested in this article on its pertinence and explanatory power for the following issues: animal rights, abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide. These subjects are suitable as tests precisely because they are not those for which LWS or rival theories, with which it will be compared, and for which it was primarily developed for. It will be concluded that LWS is very superior in pertinence and explanatory power both because it is much less metaphysical and much more complex than its rivals.

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**EVANGELIUM VITAE: ENCYClical LETTER ADDRESSED BY THE SUPREME PONTIFF POPE JOHN PAUL II TO ALL THE BISHOPS, PRIESTS AND DEACONS, MEN AND WOMEN, RELIGIOUS LAY FAITHFUL, AND ALL PEOPLE OF GOOD WILL ON THE VALUE AND INVIOLABILITY OF HUMAN LIFE**


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