

23 - Landmark publications relevant for critique o

Landmark publications relevant for critique on ethics

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- The informative model. The doctor is seen as a dispenser of information. Here the choice is left wholly up to the patient. May be useful in one-off consultations, but may not work well if strictly followed on long-term professional relationship.
- The interpretive model. Here the doctor will be treating the patient for a long time and might know his/her patient well and understand the circumstances of their microenvironment. Here shared decision-making is established.
- The deliberative model. The doctor here may act as a friend or counselor to the patient, where information dispensing is coupled with advice on a course of action. This is commonly used to enable lifestyle modification and to address maladaptive coping.

4. Other terms used:

- Direct Ethics is about the action taken. To determine what ethical behaviour is, we should assess the act -- what has been done.
- Indirect Ethics is about the actor -- the nature of the individual choosing those actions. The main concern here is the formation of character by a moral agent (a person).
- Pragmatic ethics: Emphasis is on achieving success, on reaching a goal with relatively little concern for how that success is achieved.
- Humanistic ethics: Emphasis is on doing what's best for society. This dominates ethical theory overwhelmingly; according to humanism, ethics is held as a virtue, with its goal being social improvement rather than personal success. Although some actions are always wrong (murder, for instance), in most cases, ethical behaviour lies between extremes, along a range between excess and deficiency. This is the idea of the golden mean of Aristotle.

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- Nuremberg Code 1947: Code of ethics following the Nuremberg Trials (post-World War II Trial concerning doctors experimenting on people detained in concentration camps). According to Nuremberg Code, human experimentation can be carried out only if
- Voluntary consent is given
- Research is intended for common good of the society
- Avoidance of unnecessary pain and suffering is guaranteed for the subjects
- Subject has liberty to withdraw at any point
- Qualified researchers undertake research
- Scientist must terminate a study if more harm is being caused than expected to the subjects

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