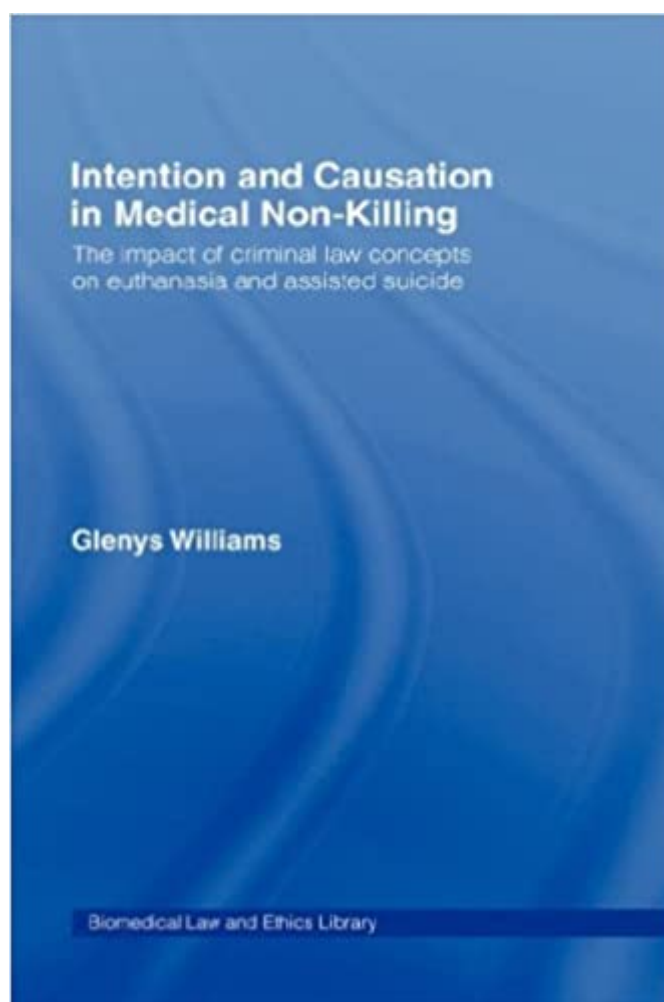


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Intention And Causation In Medical Non-Killing: The Impact Of Criminal Law Concepts On Euthanasia And Assisted Suicide (Biomedical Law And Ethics Library)





Synopsis

Analyzing the concepts of intention and causation in euthanasia, this timely new book explores a broad selection of disciplines, including criminal and medical law, medical ethics, philosophy and social policy and suggests an alternative solution to the one currently used by the courts, based on grading different categories of killing into a formalized justificatory defence. This text explores how culpability, blameworthiness and liability are ascribed and how ascertaining mens rea and actus reus are problematic in an end-of-life decision-making scenario. Williams criticizes the way the courts rely so exclusively on the criminal concepts of intention and causation in such medical scenarios and examines and raises awareness of the inadequate and inappropriate legal framework within in which judges have to operate. Topical and compelling, this significant contribution argues for a more open and honest approach which would, in turn, provide the certainty, consistency and equality required by the law. This is a quintessential read for all students studying medical and healthcare law and the legal aspects of health and medicine.

Book Information

File Size: 891 KB

Print Length: 246 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0415423023

Simultaneous Device Usage: Up to 4 simultaneous devices, per publisher limits

Publisher: Routledge-Cavendish; 1 edition (March 6, 2007)

Publication Date: March 6, 2007

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B000SK1GJQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #2,122,191 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #25

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