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Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitanism—Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitanism: Essays on Cosmopolitanism, Human Rights, and Human Dignity—Yechiel Michael Barilan 2012-09-14 A novel and multidisciplinary exposition and theorization of human dignity and rights, brought to bear on current issues in bioethics and biolaw. “Human dignity” has been enshrined in international agreements and national constitutions as a fundamental human right. The World Medical Association calls on physicians to respect human dignity and to discharge their duties with dignity. And yet human dignity is a term—like love, hope, and justice—that is intuitively grasped but never clearly defined. Some ethicists and bioethicists dismiss it; other thinkers point to its use in the service of particular ideologies. In this book, Michael Barilan offers an urgently needed, nonideological, and thorough conceptual clarification of human dignity and human rights, relating these ideas to current issues in ethics, law, and bioethics. Combining social history, history of ideas, moral theology, applied ethics, and political theory, Barilan tells the story of human dignity as a background moral ethos to human rights. After setting the problem in its scholarly context, he offers a hermeneutics of the formative texts on Imago Dei; provides a philosophical explication of the value of human dignity and of vulnerability; presents a comprehensive theory of human rights from a natural, humanist perspective; explores issues of moral status; and examines the value of responsibility as a link between virtue ethics and human dignity and rights. Barilan accompanies his theoretical claim with numerous practical illustrations, linking his theory to such issues in bioethics as end-of-life care, cloning, abortion, torture, treatment of the mentally incapacitated; the right to health care, the human organ market, disability and notions of difference, and privacy, highlighting many relevant legal aspects in constitutional and humanitarian law.

The Concept of Human Dignity in Human Rights Discourse—David Kretzmer 2021-08-04

Dignity and Human Rights—Stephan P. Leher 2018-01-12 It is impossible to assess dignity, the agency of autonomy and equality of rights under the current rule of law, when we are met by global challenges like climate change, financial crisis, food crisis, natural disasters, inequality, violent conflicts and trade disputes? Drawing on European philosophical enlightenment to rethink dominant theories of contemporary Western Human Rights, Stephan P. Leher explores the philosophical foundation of the concept of ‘dignity’ and Human Rights. Using specific examples from Africa and Latin America to explain these concepts as social realizations in the world, Leher demonstrates the link between justice and peace and contends that dignity, Freedom and Human Rights law rule are social realizations and claims by all people. He argues that sentences and propositions about social choices and realizations of real life expressed in ordinary language constitutes the basic element for the foundation and protection of human dignity and Human Rights. The social choice to claim one’s freedom and right can be considered as the dignity agency of the individual. Dignity and Human Rights sheds new light on the academic assessment of dignity, the agency of autonomy and equality of rights under a rule of law in a time of changes and challenges of human rights policies and politics.

Making Human Dignity Central to International Human Rights Law—Matthew McManus 2019-10-15 In recent years, there has been an explosion of writing on the topic of human dignity across a plethora of different academic disciplines. Despite this explosion of interest, there is one group – critical legal scholars – that has devoted little if any attention to human dignity. This book argues that these scholars should attend to human dignity, a concept rich enough to support a whole range of progressive ambitions, particularly in the field of international law. It synthesizes certain liberal arguments about the good of self-authorship with the critical legal philosophy of Roberto Unger and the capabilities approach to agency of Amartya Sen, to formulate a unique conception of human dignity. The author argues how human dignity flows from an individual’s capacity for self-authorship as defined by the set of expressive capabilities s/he possesses, and the book demonstrates how this conception can enrich our understanding of international human rights law by making the amplification of human dignity its fundamental orientation.

Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitanism—Stephan P. Leher 2019-06-15

Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitanism—Matthew McManus 2019-10-15

Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitanism—Stephan P. Leher 2019-06-15

Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitanism—Matthew McManus 2019-10-15

Dignity as a Human Right?—George P. Smith 2018-11-27 This book examines the place of human dignity as a normative standard, principle, or right in domestic and global health care decision-making. The contentious issue of end-of-life care serves the foundation of the analysis of human dignity as a human right.
Human Dignity: Amos Nascimento 2018-06-04 Connecting three generations of critical theorists, this edited collection focuses on the mutual complementarity between the concept of “human dignity” and the theory and practice of human rights. Human dignity has recently emerged as a controversial theme in the philosophy of human rights and has become the subject of a growing debate involving theological, political, juridical, moral, and biomedical perspectives. Previously, interpretations of this concept took for granted specific definitions of this term without accounting for the perspective offered by a “Critical Theory of Human Rights.” This interdisciplinary perspective relies on a tradition that goes from Immanuel Kant to Jürgen Habermas, influences new generations, and sheds more light on how human dignity is used (and abused) in contemporary discourses.

Based on this tradition, the contributors sustain an engaged discussion of the topic and address issues such as domination, colonialism, multiculturalism, globalization, and cosmopolitanism. Informed by different contexts, each author offers a unique contribution to distinctive aspects of the necessary internal correlation between human dignity and human rights. This book will be of interest to students and researchers in human rights in Europe, North America, and Latin America and readers in the areas of political science, philosophy, sociology, law, and international relations.

Human Rights and Dignity: John Warwick Montgomery 1986

The Cambridge Handbook of Human Dignity: Marcus Düwell 2014-04-10 This introduction to human dignity explores the history of the notion from antiquity to the nineteenth century, and the way in which dignity is conceptualised in non-Western contexts. Building on this, it addresses a range of systematic conceptualisations, considers the theoretical and legal conditions for human dignity as a useful notion and analyses a number of philosophical and conceptual approaches to dignity. Finally, the book introduces current debates, paying particular attention to the legal implementation, human rights, justice and conflicts, medicine and bioethics, and provides an explicit systematic framework for discussing dignity.

Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights: Rowan Cruft 2015

Readership: This book would be suitable for students, academics and scholars of law, philosophy, politics, international relations and economics.

Human Dignity and the Adjudication of Environmental Rights: Dina L. Townsend 2020-06-26 Focusing on contemporary debates in philosophy and legal theory, this ground-breaking book provides a compelling enquiry into the nature of human dignity. The author not only illustrates that dignity is a concept that can extend our understanding of our environmental impacts and duties, but also highlights how our reliance on and relatedness to the environment further extends and enhances our understanding of dignity itself.

Human Rights Without Dignity: Andrea Sangiovanni 2017-06-26 Why are all persons due equal respect? Andrea Sangiovanni rejects the view that human dignity is grounded in our capacities for reason, love, etc. Rather than focus on the basis for equality, we should focus on inequality: Why and when is it necessary for persons due equal respect? Andrea Sangiovanni rejects the view that human dignity is grounded in our capacities for reason, love, etc. Rather than focus on the basis for equality, we should focus on inequality: Why and when is it necessary for persons due equal respect?

Dignity Rights: Erin Daly 2020-10-09 The right to dignity is now recognized in most of the world’s constitutions, and hardly a new constitution is adopted without it. Over the last sixty years, courts in Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and North America have developed a robust jurisprudence of dignity on subjects as diverse as health care, imprisonment, privacy, education, culture, the environment, sexuality, and death. As the range and growing number of cases about dignity attest, it is invoked and recognized by courts far more frequently than other constitutional guarantees. Dignity Rights is the first book to explore the constitutional law of dignity around the world. Erin Daly shows how dignity has come not only to define specific interests like the right to humane treatment or to earn a living wage, but also to protect the basic rights of a person to control his or her own life and to live in society with others. Daly argues that, through the right to dignity, courts are redefining what it means to be human in the modern world. As described by the courts, the scope of dignity rights marks the outer boundaries of state power, limiting state authority to meet the demands of human dignity. As a result, these cases force us to reexamine the relationship between the individual and the state and, in turn, contribute to a new and richer understanding of the role of the citizen in modern democracies.

The Oxford Handbook of International Human Rights Law: Dinh-Shetlin 2013-09 The Oxford Handbook of International Human Rights Law provides an authoritative, comprehensive overview of one of the key branches of international law. Forty contributors comprehensively analyse the role of human rights in international law from a global perspective, examining its origins and principles, and measuring its impact on the world.

Faith and Human Dignity: Richard Amesbury This book argues that the idea of human rights is not exclusively religious, but that its realization in practice requires urgent action on the part of people of all faiths, and of none. Acknowledging the ambiguous moral legacy of their own tradition, Christianity, the authors draw on christological themes to draft blueprints for a culturally sensitive “theology of human rights.”

Human Rights, Human Dignity, and Cosmopolitan Ideals: Matthias Lutz-Bachmann 2014

Human Rights and World Public Order: Myres S. McDougal 2018-12-14 In 1980, Professors McDougal, Lasswell, and Chen published the original edition of Human Rights and World Public Order to present a “comprehensive framework of inquiry” from which to approach international human rights, and international law, and inadequacies therein in the discourse of that time, by adventures in theory, structure, method, and process. As a classic text of the New Haven School of International Law, this book explores human rights and international law in the broadest sense, taking into account social sciences research while embracing all values secured, or consequently fulfilled, or needed to thus be achieved. The book endeared as a lasting contribution that reframed human rights within the New Haven School tradition, and as a magnificent work of scholarship freed from the confines of positivism and the static concerns of any one political or historical period. Co-author Lung-chu Chen spearheaded the re-issuance of this venerable title, complete with a contemporary, fresh Introduction to unveil this work to a new generation of scholars, students, and practitioners of international law and human rights. This Introduction surveys the major developments in human rights since 1960, including many doctrines and concepts that have emerged since. It covers contemporary events to provide today’s readers with the opportunity to contextualize the chapters and to apply the book’s framework to future endeavors.

Dignity, Degrading Treatment and Torture in Human Rights Law: Elaine Webster 2018-04-27 Although scholars have shown longstanding interest in the boundaries of interpretation of the right not to be subjected to torture and other prohibited harm, the existing body of work does not sufficiently reflect the significance of the interpretive scope of degrading treatment. This book argues that the degrading treatment element of the right is a crucial site of analysis, in itself and for understanding the parameters of the right as a whole. It addresses how, methodologically, the scope of meaning and application of the right not to be subjected to degrading treatment should best be identified and considers the implications thereof. It systematically examines the diverse aspects of degrading treatment’s scope, from foundations of legal interpretation to the drivers of humiliation. It draws on wide-ranging literature and extensive analysis of more than 1,500 judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, which has pioneered the right’s interpretive growth. The book aims to explore how the interpretive possibilities, and limits, of the right not to be subjected to degrading treatment should be identified and considered the implications thereof. It systematically examines the diverse aspects of degrading treatment’s scope, from foundations of legal interpretation to the drivers of humiliation. It draws on wide-ranging literature and extensive analysis of more than 1,500 judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, which has pioneered the right’s interpretive growth. The book aims to explore how the interpretive possibilities, and limits, of the right not to be subjected to degrading treatment should best be identified and considers the implications thereof. It systematically examines the diverse aspects of degrading treatment’s scope, from foundations of legal interpretation to the drivers of humiliation. It draws on wide-ranging literature and extensive.
Dignity in Adversity- Seyla Benhabib 2013-05-20The language of human rights has become the public vocabulary of our contemporary world. Ironically, as the preeminence of human rights has grown, philosophical justification has become ever more controversial. Building on a theory of discourse ethics and communicative rationality, this book addresses the politics and philosophy of human rights against the background of the broader social transformations that are shaping the modern world. Rejecting the reduction of international human rights to the Trojan horse of a neo-liberal empire’s bid for world power, as well as the conservative objections to legal cosmopolitanism as encroachments upon democratic sovereignty, Benhabib develops two key concepts to move beyond these false antitheses. International human rights norms need contextualization in specific polities through processes of what she calls ‘democratic iterations.’ Furthermore, such norms have a ‘jurisgenerative power.’ In that they enable new actors to enter fields of social and political contestation; they promote new vocabularies for public claim-making and anticipate a justice to come. Ranging over themes such as sovereignty, citizenship, genocide, European anti-semitism, the crisis of the nation-state, and the ‘scarf affair’ in contemporary Europe and Turkey, this major new book by one of our leading political theorists reflects upon the political transformations of our times and makes a compelling case for a cosmopolitanism without illusions.

Power, Suffering, and the Struggle for Dignity- Alicia Ely Yamin 2015-12-10 Directed at a diverse audience of students, legal and public health practitioners, and anyone interested in understanding what human rights-based approaches (HRBAs) to health and development mean and why they matter, this book provides a solid foundation for comprehending what a human rights framework implies and the potential for social transformation it entails.

From Human Rights to Human Dignity- Chandra Muzaffar 1994

Securing Dignity and Freedom Through Human Rights- Janelle M. Diller 2011-12-09 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes that everyone’s dignity and freedom to develop as a person are secured through economic, social and cultural rights. This volume examines the origins of the article of the Declaration that introduced the purpose of economic, social and cultural rights in this way and recognized that everyone is entitled to their realization through national effort and international cooperation. The article’s concepts have been the subject of significant articulation and interpretation. Accordingly, the book analyzes the meaning and application of economic, social and cultural rights and the nature of the related obligations developed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and other international instruments. The book also explores the contribution of the article’s legal concepts to philosophical theories of social justice and increasingly to the practice expected of States, individually and in cooperation with international organizations and non-state actors in development and other activities. This volume should provide a convenient tool for human rights advocates, practitioners, lawyers, scholars, and others interested in the role of human rights in seeking economic, social and cultural security for all.

Restoring Dignity in Public Schools- Maria Hantzopoulos 2016-02-12 For many students in urban public schools, the routines of standards-based instruction and frequent testing remove the possibilities for sustained inquiry and critical engagement in school and with the larger world. Restoring Dignity in Public Schools demonstrates how urban public schools can create thriving, authentic centers of learning. Drawing from rich narratives of human rights education (HRE) in action, the author shows how school leaders can be entitled to their realization through national effort and international cooperation. The article’s concepts have been the subject of significant articulation and interpretation. Accordingly, the book analyzes the meaning and application of economic, social and cultural rights and the nature of the related obligations developed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and other international instruments. The book also explores the contribution of the article’s legal concepts to philosophical theories of social justice and increasingly to the practice expected of States, individually and in cooperation with international organizations and non-state actors in development and other activities. This volume should provide a convenient tool for human rights advocates, practitioners, lawyers, scholars, and others interested in the role of human rights in seeking economic, social and cultural security for all.

Human Dignity and the Future of Global Institutions- Mark P. Lagon 2014-08-20 The twenty-first century has witnessed a proliferation of international institutions, including traditional intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, private sector entities, and other partnerships. The premise of this anthology is that these institutions need a common, animating principle in the service of the person, which is the ultimate end of global politics. The concept of human dignity, the editors claim, serves this purpose and transcends the seemingly intractable conflicts in human rights debates: political rights vs. social and economic rights. Conceptually, human dignity rests on two pillars: exercising agency to realize one’s potential, and recognition by society of one’s value. In light of this formulation of human dignity, the anthology has two purposes: First, contributors will examine the degree to which traditional and emerging institutions are already advancing human dignity as a central mission. Second, in the spirit of developing best practices and prescriptive recommendations, contributors will identify strategies, methods, and modalities to make human dignity more central to the work of global institutions.

Conscience: The Origins of Moral Intuition- Patricia Churchland 2019-06-04 How do we know what is right and wrong? Conscience illuminates the answer through science and philosophy. In her brilliant work Touching a Nerve, Patricia S. Churchland, the distinguished founder of neurophilosophy, drew from scientific research on the brain to understand its philosophical and ethical implications for identity, consciousness, free will, and memory. In Conscience, she explores how moral systems arise from our physical selves in combination with environmental demands. All social groups have ideals for behavior, even though ethics vary among different cultures and among individuals within each culture. In trying to understand why, Churchland brings together an understanding of the influences of nature and nurture. She looks to evolution to elucidate how, from birth, our brains are configured to form bonds, to cooperate, and to care. She shows how children grow up in societies through learning, through repetition and rewards, the norms, values, and behavior that their parents embrace. Conscience delves into scientific studies, particularly the fascinating work on twins, to deepen our understanding of whether people have a predisposition to embrace specific ethical standards. Research on psychopaths illuminates the knowledge about those who abide by no moral system and the explanations science gives for these disturbing individuals. Churchland then turns to philosophy—that of Socrates, Aquinas, and contemporary thinkers like Owen Flanagan—to explore why morality is central to all societies, how it is transmitted through the generations, and why different cultures live by different moral codes. Her unparalleled ability to join ideas rarely put into dialogue brings light to a subject that speaks to the meaning of being human.


Disability with Dignity- Linda Barclay 2018-07-24 Philosophical interest in disability is rapidly expanding. Philosophers are beginning to grasp the complexity of disability—as a category, with respect to well-being and as a marker of identity. However, the philosophical literature on justice and human rights has often been limited in scope and somewhat abstract. Not enough sustained attention has been paid to the concrete claims made by people with disabilities, concerning their human rights, their legal entitlements and their access to important goods, services and resources. This book discusses how effectively philosophical approaches to distributive justice and human rights can contribute to improving the situation of people with disabilities.

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Human Dignity and Human Rights-
Hoda Mahmoudi 2019-11-18 This timely collection brings together a diverse array of field-leading contributors in order to offer an interdisciplinary investigation into a discourse, research, and action agenda in pursuit of the universal application of human dignity.

Fictions of Dignity—Elizabeth S. Anker 2012-11-16 Over the past fifty years, debates about human rights have assumed an increasingly prominent place in postcolonial literature and theory. Writers from Salman Rushdie to Nawal El Saadawi have used the novel to explore both the possibilities and challenges of enacting and protecting human rights, particularly in the Global South. In Fictions of Dignity, Elizabeth S. Anker shows how the dual enabling fictions of human dignity and bodily integrity contribute to an anxiety about the body that helps to explicate contemporary and historical failures of human rights, revealing why and how lives are excluded from human rights protections along the lines of race, gender, class, disability, and species membership. In the process, Anker examines the vital work performed by a particular kind of narrative imagination in fostering respect for human rights. Drawing on phenomenology, Anker suggests that a more embodied politics of reading might restore a vital fleshliness to the overly abstract, decorporealized subject of liberal rights. Each of the novels Anker examines approaches human rights in terms of limits and paradoxes. Rushdie’s Midnight’s Children addresses the obstacles to incorporating rights into a formerly colonized nation’s legal culture. El Saadawi’s Woman at Point Zero takes up controversies over women’s freedoms in Islamic society. In Disgrace, J. M. Coetzee considers the implications of the post-apartheid reconciliation in South Africa. And in The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy confronts an array of human rights abuses widespread in contemporary India. Each of these literary case studies further demonstrates the relevance of embodiment to both comprehending and redressing the failures of human rights, even while those narratives refuse simplistic ideals or solutions.

Hannah Arendt and the Fragility of Human Dignity—John Douglas Macready 2017-12-20 Professor John Douglas Macready offers a postfoundational account of human dignity by way of a reconstructive reading of Hannah Arendt. He argues that Arendt’s experience of political violence and genocide in the twentieth century, as well as her experience as a stateless person, led her to rethink human dignity as an intersubjective event of political experience. By tracing the contours of Arendt’s thoughts on human dignity, Professor Macready offers convincing evidence that Arendt was engaged in retrieving the political experience that gave rise to the concept of human dignity in order to move beyond the traditional accounts of human dignity that relied principally on the status and stature of human beings. This allowed Arendt to retrofit the concept for a new political landscape and reconcile human dignity in terms of stance—how human beings stand in relationship to one another. Professor Macready elucidates Arendt’s latent political ontology as a resource for developing strictly political account of human dignity that he calls conditional dignity—the view that human dignity is dependent on political action, namely, the preservation and expression of dignity by the person, and/or the recognition by the political community. He argues that it is precisely this “right” to have a place in the world—the right to belong to a political community and never to be reduced to the status of stateless animality—that indicates the political meaning of human dignity in Arendt’s political philosophy.

Hannah Arendt 2014-03-31 We often speak of the dignity owed to a person. And dignity is a word that regularly appears in political speeches. Charters are promulgated in its name, and appeals to it are made when people all over the world struggle to achieve their rights. But what exactly is dignity? When a person physically assaults another, we feel the wrong demands immediate condemnation and legal sanction. Whereas when one person humiliates or thoughtlessly makes use of another, we recognize the wrong and hope for a remedy, but the social response is less clear. The injury itself may be hard to quantify. Given our concern with human dignity, it is odd that it has received comparatively little scrutiny. Here, George Kateb does not limit the notion of dignity to individuals but extends it to the human species. The dignity of the human species rests on our uniqueness among all other species. In the book’s concluding section, he asks whether the ravages we have inflicted on it, nature would be worse off without humanity. The supremely fitting task of humanity can be seen as a “stewardship” of nature. This secular defense of human dignity—the first book-length attempt of its kind—crows the career of a distinguished political thinker.

Dignity, Mental Health and Human Rights—Brendan D. Kelly 2016-03-09 This book explores the human rights consequences of recent and ongoing revisions of mental health legislation in England and Ireland. Presenting a critical discussion of the World Health Organization’s ‘Checklist on Mental Health Legislation’ from its Resource Book on Mental Health, Human Rights and Legislation, the author uses this checklist as a frame-work for analysis to examine the extent to which mental health legislation complies with the WHO human rights standards. The author also examines recent case-law from the European Court of Human Rights, and looks in depth at the implications of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for mental health law in England and Ireland. Focusing on dignity, human rights and mental health law, the work sets out to determine to what extent, if any, human rights concerns have influenced recent revisions of mental health legislation, and to what extent recent developments in mental health law have assisted in protecting and promoting the mentally ill. The author seeks to articulate better, clearer and more connected ways to protect and promote the rights of the mentally ill through both law and policy.

The Constitution of Rights—Michael J. Meyer 1992 This volume presents essays on the place of “dignity” or “human dignity” in the moral and juridical universe of the U.S. Constitution. It is dedicated to William J. Brennan, Jr., whose tenure as a Supreme Court associate justice marks the high point of efforts to include the idea of dignity as “implicit in the scheme of ordered liberty” that is part of “the deepest held conviction of a civilized people.” The essays argue that dignity is a core value which is foundational account of human dignity by way of a reconstructive reading of Hannah Arendt. Their author seeks for the The Constitution of Rights. An exception is a vintage piece by Raoul Berger, in which he rejects Brennan’s approach to constitutional interpretation. ISBN 0-8014-2650-2: $32.50.

The Reality of Human Dignity in Law and Bioethics—Brigitte Feuillet-Liger 2018-11-19 Adopting an interdisciplinary perspective, this volume explores the reality of human dignity, a core value which is increasingly invoked in our societies and legal systems. This book provides a systematic overview of the legal and philosophical concept in sixteen countries representing different cultural and religious contexts and examines in particular its use in a developing case law (including of the European Court of Human Rights and of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights). While omnipresent in the context of bioethics, this book reveals its wider use in healthcare more generally, treatment of prisoners, education, employment, and matters of life and death in many countries. In this unique comparative work, contributing authors share a multidisciplinary analysis of the use (and potential misuse) of the principle of dignity in Europe, Africa, South and North America and Asia. By revealing the ambivalence of human dignity in a wide range of cultures and contexts and through the evolving reality of case law, this book is a valuable resource for students, scholars and professionals working in bioethics, medicine, social sciences and law. Ultimately, it will make all those who invoke the principle of human dignity more aware of its multi-layered character and force us all to reflect on its ability to further social justice within our societies.

From Global Poverty to Global Equality—Pablo Gilabert 2012-03-29 From Global Poverty to Global Equality provides a philosophical exploration of some of the central questions in the flourishing debate on global justice: Do we have a duty to help eradicate global poverty? Do we also have a duty to pursue global equality? What makes such demands morally justifiable?

Rights, Religion and Reform—Chandra Muzaffar 2002 This book discusses issues concerning human rights and religion. Related to this is a larger question: How can universal spiritual and moral values help to shape politics, the economy and society as a whole?

Human Rights and Human Nature—Marion Albers 2014-02-18 This book explores the reality of human dignity, a core value which is increasingly invoked in our societies and legal systems. This book provides a systematic overview of the legal and philosophical concept in sixteen countries representing different cultural and religious contexts and examines in particular its use in a developing case law (including of the European Court of Human Rights and of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights). While omnipresent in the context of bioethics, this book reveals its wider use in healthcare more generally, treatment of prisoners, education, employment, and matters of life and death in many countries. In this unique comparative work, contributing authors share a multidisciplinary analysis of the use (and potential misuse) of the principle of dignity in Europe, Africa, South and North America and Asia. By revealing the ambivalence of human dignity in a wide range of cultures and contexts and through the evolving reality of case law, this book is a valuable resource for students, scholars and professionals working in bioethics, medicine, social sciences and law. Ultimately, it will make all those who invoke the principle of human dignity more aware of its multi-layered character and force us all to reflect on its ability to further social justice within our societies.
explores both the possibilities and limits of arguments from human nature in the context of human rights. Can the concept of human nature provide a basis for understanding fundamental rights? Is it plausible to justify the claim to universal validity of human rights by reference to human nature? Or does the idea of human rights in its modern, post-1945 manifestation go, in essence, beyond human nature? The essays in this volume introduce naturalistic positions and their concomitant critiques. They address the role that human nature both actually does and potentially may play in forming a foundation for and acting as an exemplification of fundamental rights. Beyond that, they give attention to the challenges caused by Life Sciences.

Human nature itself is subject to transformation and transgression in an unprecedented manner. The essays reflect on issues such as reproduction, species manipulation, corporeal autonomy and enhancement. Contributors are jurists, philosophers and political scientists from Germany, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland and Japan.