

PRO-LIFE RESOURCES FOR FURTHER STUDY OF END-OF-LIFE ISSUES

(Compiled by Jim Cole, 5/29/2017. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list.)

PRO-LIFE, NON-RELIGIOUS

National Right to Life Committee's web site has a large collection of pro-life materials on end-of-life issues. See <http://www.nrlc.org/medethics/>. NRLC sponsors the "Will to Live," the Missouri version of which is available online at <http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/willtolive/MO2001.pdf> and on the Missouri Right to Life web site.

Missouri Right to Life, www.missourilife.org, this State's largest solely pro-life organization, has online resources that include a link to the Missouri "Will to Live," MRL's policy statements, and miscellaneous resources including the paper, "Advance Directives for a Natural End of Life," presented at the MRL Leadership Conference held on June 10, 2017.

Wesley J. Smith: <http://www.discovery.org/p/13>. Mr. Smith has written a number of books that would be well worth reading, including *Forced Exit: Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide and the New Duty to Die* (Times Books, 1997) and *Culture of Death: The Assault on Medical Ethics in America* (Encounter Books, 2000). He also contributes regularly to First Things, National Review, and other periodicals. See <http://www.nationalreview.com/author/73549/archive/2016>.

Rita Marker manages the Patients' Rights Council (formerly International Anti-Euthanasia Task Force), <http://www.patientsrightscouncil.org/site/>. The PRC web site has a wealth of articles on end-of-life subjects. It tracks current legislative and legal activities on end-of-life issues in every state.

Nancy Valko, RN, Nurses for Life has both personal and professional experience that informs her solidly pro-life work on topics at the beginning and at the end of life. She has written many articles, particularly in the *Voices* magazine that was published by Women for Faith and Family. She continues to write on pro-life topics on her own blog, "Nancyvalko: A Nurse's Perspective on Life, Healthcare and Ethics," <https://nancyvalko.com/>.

RELIGIOUS: CHRISTIAN (NON-CATHOLIC)

The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, <http://www.cbhd.org/category/issues/end-life>, has developed a large library of end-of-life materials and other pro-life resources. CBHD is associated with Trinity International University in the Chicago area, which sponsors a Masters' degree program in bioethics.

Southern Baptist Convention, Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, Resources on End-of-Life Issues, <http://erlc.com/resource-library/topic-index/end-of-life-issues>.

Concordia Center for Bioethics, Concordia University (Wisconsin), offers Lutheran resources on bioethical issues. See especially the paper, "Decision Making Compatible with the Christian Faith," <https://www.cuw.edu/organizations/bioethics/resources.html> (accessed May 29, 2017).

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Pro-life resources on end-of-life issues continued--

RELIGIOUS: CATHOLIC

Catechism of the Catholic Church (2d edition, 1997), http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM, especially nos. 618 & 1521 (the Cross), nos. 1006-1014, 1020 (Christian death), nos. 2276-2279 (euthanasia), 2280-2283 (suicide), and nos. 366, 988-1004 (our resurrection).

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* (5th ed. 2009), Part Five: Issues in Care for the Seriously Ill and Dying. The work is available in pdf format at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/health-care/upload/Ethical-Religious-Directives-Catholic-Health-Care-Services-fifth-edition-2009.pdf>.

National Catholic Bioethics Center, www.ncbcenter.org. Note especially (i) the "Resources" tab and (ii) articles on bioethics under the title, "Making Sense of Bioethics," by Rev. Tad Pacholczyk, at <http://www.ncbcenter.org/publications/making-sense-out-bioethics/>.

John Paul II: *Veritatis splendor* (The Splendor of Truth, 1993), *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life, 1995), and *Salvifici doloris* (The Christian Meaning of Human Suffering, 1984). All are available at <http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en.html>.

Additional end-of-life teachings from the Holy See:

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, *Responses to Certain Questions of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Concerning Artificial Nutrition and Hydration* (August 1, 2007); *Declaration on Euthanasia* (May 5, 1980). These are listed and linked at the site, http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/doc_doc_index.htm.

Pope Pius XII, *Address to Those Attending the Congress of the International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues* (September 11, 1947), AAS 39 (1947), p. 483; *Address to the Italian Catholic Union of Midwives* (October 29, 1951), AAS 43 (1951), pp. 835-854; *Speech to the Members of the International Office of Military Medicine Documentation*, (October 19, 1953), AAS 45 (1953), pp. 744-754; *Address to Those Taking Part in the IXth Congress of the Italian Anaesthesiological Society* (February 24, 1957), AAS 49 (1957), p. 146. These works were cited in the *Declaration on Euthanasia*, above, footnote 2.