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# BRAINSTORM

An interdisciplinary and bilingual newsletter about advances in health ethics theory and practice

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[Pragmatic Health Ethics Research Unit,  
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Volume: 18, Issue: 2

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## [Nouvelles de l'Unité de recherche en éthique pragmatique de la santé](#)

### Portrait de Eric Racine par la Fondation Brocher

Dans le cadre de la série 2025 des [Entretiens Brocher](#), présentée par la [Fondation Brocher](#), **Eric Racine** s'est entretenu avec **Sally Davies** du webzine Aeon. La Fondation Brocher est reconnue pour sa promotion de la recherche pluridisciplinaire sur les enjeux éthiques, juridiques et sociaux liés aux nouveaux développements médicaux et aux politiques de santé.

Pendant 25 minutes, ils retracent le parcours et le programme de recherche d'Eric Racine, tout en

discutant des projets à venir pour [l'Unité de Recherche en Éthique Pragmatique de la Santé](#), notamment à travers la nouvelle orientation [Éthique Vivante](#).

Bon visionnage !



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## [Monthly profile](#)

**Marika Warren (PhD)**

Marika is trained in philosophy and wrote a dissertation focusing on disability rights claims and

philosophical accounts of personhood. She has been involved in bioethics in Canada since 1997, when she attended a talk by Dr. John Dossetor and asked if he knew of any summer jobs in bioethics. Since 2008 she has been grateful for the opportunity to build ethics capacity and confidence as the Network Ethicist for the Nova Scotia Health Ethics Network and member of the Dalhousie Department of Bioethics Ethics Collaborations Team.



One of Marika's strengths is her ability to play well with others, collaborating with colleagues across a range of disciplines. Current interests include specifying and codifying the role of practicing healthcare ethicists, both generally and in the specific contexts of crisis response and MAiD provision, building on work around professionalization led by CAPHE-ACCESS (of which Marika is a board member).

#### **Statement by Marika Warren:**

The current focus in Canada on practicing healthcare ethicists' (PHEs) roles and practices has me thinking about professional development for PHEs. So here I describe three avenues for learning and growth that I've found useful, with the intent to sow seeds for future national discussions.

1. Sitting on the Halifax Public Library Board has been very useful in increasing the contextual knowledge that is beneficial in providing organizational ethics support. Since libraries are like healthcare organizations in many ways, this experience has offered opportunities for comparison and contrast. In addition, it facilitated cross-pollination of ideas about and approaches to challenging ethical questions. Finally, it expanded my understanding of operations, management, and strategy.
2. I benefit significantly from having regular biweekly meetings with local colleagues, based on the model of a [Balint Group](#), where we identify themes and trends and offer each other suggestions on challenging cases. This allows me to tap into others' experience (both locally and in other jurisdictions), to be aware of cases that might later have implications for future consultations, and most importantly to engage in self-reflection and receive feedback on my practice.
3. Finally, every year I participate in a symposium with colleagues who are working in different areas within bioethics. Originating with my graduate school cohort, the symposium involves extensive preparation and careful planning to ensure that the time together (and carbon expended to meet in person) is used effectively. This creates time to explore developments in the field and connect theory with practice.

#### **Selected publications:**

- Picketts L, **Warren MD**, Bohnert C. Diversity and inclusion in simulation: addressing ethical and psychological safety concerns when working with simulated participants. *BMJ Simul Technol Enhanc Learn*. 2021;7(6):590-599.
- **Warren M**, Simpson C, Godkin D, Alvarez A, Porter A. Convergence and Divergence in Canadian Ethics Support Services. *J Clin Ethics*. 2022;33(3): 225-235.
- **Warren M**. Engaging with Experiences of Stigma to Enhance Bioethics Education for Medical Learners. In: Mant M, Mounsey C, eds. *The History and Bioethics of Medical Education*. Routledge; 2021:60-76.

**Website Link:**

- [Nova Scotia Health Ethics Network](#)

**Events and announcements**

**The Montreal Health Ethics Conference Series**

The Montreal Health Ethics Conference Series aims to bring clinicians, academics, patients, politicians, public figures, students and community members together to think about and discuss issues in health ethics. It has hosted over a hundred of scholars from local and international institutions since 2007. The series' objective, supported by many academic institutions located in Montreal, is to promote interdisciplinary reflection as well as foster new ways of thought that better assemble the larger public.



**The new theme for the 2025 series: Ethical Issues Related to Women's Health and Well-Being**

We will explore: What are the main challenges women face in accessing and using health care and social services? Why do certain women's health taboos persist? Why and how is biomedical research partial and biased towards women's health? How have health policies responding to women's needs emerged and evolved? Why is women's health everyone's business?

**The next conference:**

[Diana Greene Foster, PhD](#), on **March 13, 2025 at 12PM**. She will focus on the Consequences of the End of Roe and the Lessons from the Turnaway Study.

Contribuez à façonner la recherche en matière de santé et bien-être des femmes. Scannez ce code QR après chaque conférence pour participer à notre sondage de délibération publique.

**Les jeudis - 12 h • Gratuit**  
Institut de recherches éthiques de Montréal (IREM)  
110, avenue des Pins-Ouest  
Montréal H2W 1R7

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# 13 mars

## Dr. Diana Greene Foster

Demographer and professor, University of California,  
San Francisco



## Consequences of the end of Roe: Lessons from the Turnaway Study

Contribuez à façonner la  
recherche en matière de santé et  
bien-être des femmes. Scannez ce  
code QR après chaque conférence  
pour participer à notre sondage de  
délégation publique.



**Les jeudis - 12 h • Gratuit • Format virtuel**

**Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM)**  
110, avenue des Pins Ouest  
Montréal H2W 1R7

This talk discusses the consequences of the end of a federally protected right to abortion in the United States. It describes the options open to those who want an abortion and live in one of the 21 states that has severely restricted or banned abortion and the trends in travel, telemedicine, self-managed abortion and carrying unwanted pregnancies to term. The consequences of carrying unwanted pregnancies to term has been documented through Diana Greene Foster's Turnaway Study which examined the health, economic and life course consequences of receiving versus being denied a wanted abortion for women and children prior to the Dobbs decision.

To register for upcoming conferences : [click here](#)

To view our past conferences on Youtube : [Pragmatic Health Ethics Research Unit Channel](#)

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### Site internet du Réseau international d'éthique vivante – Website Living Ethics International Network

Le réseau international d'éthique vivante est heureux de vous informer du lancement de leur site internet. Vous pourrez y retrouver les origines de ce réseau, les membres affiliés ainsi que différentes ressources et événements à venir. **Rejoignez-nous !**

The living ethics international network is pleased to announce the launch of their website. You'll be able to find out more about the origins of this network, its affiliated members, as well as various resources and upcoming events. **Join us!**

Lien/link: <https://livingethics.ca/>



**Appel à résumés – Journée scientifique Réseau de recherche sur les Savoirs Citoyens et les approches cocréatives (RéSCits)**

Cette journée scientifique permettra de mettre de l'avant différentes formes de savoirs citoyens et d'approches cocréatives. Elle a donc pour but d'engager les membres sur des discussions interactives sur ce que sont, ou peuvent être, les savoirs citoyens et comment les mobiliser et valoriser au sein de différents contextes communautaires et/ou institutionnels.

Pour les membres collaborateurs ou régulier, vous pouvez soumettre une présentation orale ou par affiche **avant le jeudi 20 mars 2025**.

**Date : Le mercredi 28 mai 2025**

**Lieu :** En présentiel à l'Institut de Recherche Clinique de Montréal (IRCM) et visioconférence via Zoom.

**Pour plus d'informations :** [cliquez-ici](#)



**Intensive Bioethics Course 46<sup>th</sup> (IBC46) – Georgetown University - June 9 - 11 2025**

Each summer, a diverse cohort of doctors, nurses, philosophers, hospital chaplains, lawyers, dentists, IRB panelists, researchers, policy makers, and others come together on Georgetown's historic campus to grapple with some of the most profound moral issues they confront in their work, guided by internationally renowned bioethics scholars from the KIE and the PCCB and by eminent guest faculty. The course revolves around plenary lectures on key topics and principles of bioethics, followed by small group discussions. This year's IBC format will include a mix of succinct content lectures and small group facilitated discussions, all led by our esteemed faculty.

**Registration closes: June 2, 2025**

**For more information:** [click-here](#)

**Midis de l'éthique du CRÉ - Médicalisation de la détresse prémenstruelle et préférences adaptatives**

Dans le cadre des Midis de l'éthique, [Anne-Marie Gagné-Julien](#) nous offrira une présentation intitulée « Médicalisation de la détresse prémenstruelle et préférences adaptatives ». La séance sera animée par [Naïma Hamrouni](#).

**Lieu :** Salle 309, CRÉ, hybride, 2910 Édouard-Montpetit, Montréal

**Date :** 3 Avril 2025, 12:00 – 13:15

Inscription au zoom : [cliquez-ici](#)

### **Call for Papers - One health, interdisciplinarity and bioethics.**

Guest editors: Prof. Christian Hervé, MD, PhD & Henri-Corto Stoeklé, PhD

This special issue aims to explore the intersection of one health, interdisciplinarity and bioethics. It seeks to avoid limitation to infectious biology or epidemiology, instead of encompassing other disciplines, such as bioethics in particular. We invite submissions that address these issues from a multidisciplinary perspective, drawing on fields such as public health, social sciences, healthcare management and policy studies.

**Submission deadline : 24 July 2025**

For more information: [click-here](#)

### **Hastings Center Research Associate Application**

The Hastings Center's Research Associate helps support the work of our Research Department and provides support for the Center's public-facing and educational initiatives. The Research Associate hired in this role will help lead and manage The Hastings Center's Bridge2AI projects, researching the ethical, legal, and social implications of AI, precision medicine, and data generation. Other current topics that the Research Associate may engage in include genetics, aging, neuroscience, and health equity, among other areas. The position begins early spring or summer 2025 (exact start date to be negotiated).

**Application Deadline:** March 5th 2025, at 11:59 PM EST.

For more information: [click-here](#)

For questions, please write to [programs@thehastingscenter.org](mailto:programs@thehastingscenter.org)

### **Journée d'étude "La souffrance et la douleur" - 20 mars 2025 – Espace éthique Île-de-France**

La souffrance et la douleur sont-elles véritablement dissociables ? Dans quelle mesure la distinction entre ces deux expériences humaines influence-t-elle notre approche des soins ? Comment pouvons-nous intégrer la compréhension de la douleur psychique pour mieux répondre aux besoins des patient·es et comment ces distinctions influencent-elles nos pratiques cliniques et éthiques ?

**Date : jeudi 20 mars de 9h00 à 17h30 (heure française)**

**Lieu : en visioconférence et en présentiel à l'Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu, Paris**

**Lien d'inscription : [cliquez-ici](#)**

### **Assistant Professor (Ethics or Applied Ethics) – University of Guelph**

The Philosophy Department at the University of Guelph invites applications for a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level. The anticipated start date for this appointment is July 1, 2025, or another mutually agreed-upon date in 2025. A Ph.D. in philosophy by the time of the appointment (or shortly thereafter) is required. The area of specialization is Ethics or Applied Ethics, and the successful candidate will engage in research related to their specialization and teach courses ranging from large service courses to small graduate seminars. The teaching commitment for this position is 5 semester courses per year at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Assessment of applications will begin on **March 6, 2025**.

To apply, and for more information, [click-here](#)

## Literature

### Interdisciplinary foundations of health ethics

#### [The integration of artificial intelligence-powered psychotherapy chatbots in pediatric care: Scaffold or substitute?](#)

Moore B, Herington J, Tekin Ş. J Pediatr. 2025 Feb 17:114509. doi: 10.1016/j.jpeds.2025.114509. Online ahead of print.

#### [How gatekeepers can better appreciate the autonomy of transgender patients.](#)

Berger Z. J Gen Intern Med. 2025 Feb 18. doi: 10.1007/s11606-025-09420-x. Online ahead of print.

#### [Two-Eyed Seeing and other Indigenous perspectives for neuroscience.](#)

Illes J, Perreault ML, Bassil K, Bjaalie JG, Taylor-Bragge RL, Chneiweiss H, Gregory TR, Kumar BN, Matshabane OP, Svalastog AL, Velarde MR. Nature. 2025 Feb;638(8049):58-68. doi: 10.1038/s41586-024-08437-2. Epub 2025 Feb 5. PMID: 39910384.

#### [Dismissive medicine and gaslighting of patients by physicians - A bioethics lens.](#)

Gabay G. Patient Educ Couns. 2025 Feb 13;134:108701. doi: 10.1016/j.pec.2025.108701. Online ahead of print. PMID: 39965468.

#### [Saving shared decision-making.](#)

Opel DJ, Gerstein MT, Carle AC, Fournier AK, Hargraves I, Lafata JE, Lipstein EA, Mallinson T, Moise N, Neuman HB, Nix M, Papadimitriou C, Scherer L, Sepucha K, Simpson M, Schwartz A, Stevens-Lapsley JE, Dickert NW. J Gen Intern Med. 2025 Feb 14. doi: 10.1007/s11606-025-09410-z. Online ahead of print.

### Methodologies and practices in health ethics

#### [Dismantling ableism in undergraduate medical education: Promising practices in disability-conscious training.](#)

Bowen L, Devlin K, Guidry-Grimes L, Milner GE, Solomon MZ, Tolchin DW, Young L, Van SP, Parens E. Teach Learn Med. 2025 Feb 18:1-17. doi: 10.1080/10401334.2025.2464672. Online ahead of print.

#### [Exploring the value and acceptability of a patient navigator program for people who inject drugs and are hospitalized for bacterial infections: Patients', community organization and healthcare workers' perspectives.](#)

Bédard K, Boisvert I, Rochette M, Racine E, Martel-Laferrrière V. BMC Infect Dis. 2025 Feb 14;25(1):221. doi: 10.1186/s12879-025-10617-y.

#### [Responding to ethical dilemmas in pediatric nephrology: A framework for clinicians in varied practice settings.](#)

Pais P, Lanewala AA, Levy C, Wightman A. Pediatr Nephrol. 2025 Feb 18. doi: 10.1007/s00467-024-



06649-2. Online ahead of print.

[Adolescent and parental proxy online record access: Analysis of the empirical evidence based on four bioethical principles.](#)

Hagström J, Hägglund M, Blease C. BMC Med Ethics. 2025 Feb 20;26(1):27. doi: 10.1186/s12910-025-01182-9.

[A qualitative process evaluation of community-based participatory research and human-centered design in the 'Let's talk about vaccines' approach in Mozambique and Malawi.](#)

Shuro L, Lawrence E, De Man J, Knight L, Schneider H, Tabana H. Res Involv Engagem. 2025 Feb 21;11(1):11. doi: 10.1186/s40900-025-00677-4.

## Debates arising in news and social media

[Les demandes anticipées refusées en grand nombre](#)

Cousineau M-E. La Presse. 7 février 2025.

[Les menstruations, un sujet encore tabou dans le sport](#)

Tardif G. Radio Canada. 17 février 2025.

[Les risques invisibles au travail](#)

Lavoie A. Le Devoir. 22 février 2025.

[Slouching toward kakistocracy: Experts need not apply.](#)

Parsi K., Elster N. Bioethics Today. February 10, 2025.

[From homes to hospitals, Canada's food environments need reform](#)

Kirk S.F.L., Vanderlee L. The Conversation. February 13, 2025.

For more resources on pragmatic health ethics theory and practice, visit our website at

[http://www.pragmatichealthethics.ca.](http://www.pragmatichealthethics.ca)

