Religious Perspectives on Bioethics: Pt. 2

Abstract:
The many religions of the world bring diverse, and occasionally divergent attitudes to bioethical issues. These beliefs may guide patients and health care professionals as they seek or provide health care. In an attempt to facilitate understanding of and access to information about these beliefs in our pluralistic and global society, this Scope Note identifies literature by the world’s major religious groups on topics relating to bioethics.

Description:
This is Part Two of a two part Scope Note on Religious Perspectives on Bioethics. Part One was published in the June 1994 issue of the Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal (KIEJ), and as a separate reprint. This Scope Note has been arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the religious tradition.

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Discipline: Bioethics provides a disciplinary framework for the whole array of moral questions and issues surrounding the life sciences concerning human beings, animals, and nature. Inter-disciplinary Approach: Bioethics is a particular way of ethical reasoning and decision making that: (i) integrates empirical data from relevant natural sciences, most notably medicine in the case of medical ethics, and (ii) considers other disciplines of applied ethics such as research ethics, information ethics, social ethics, feminist ethics, religious ethics, political ethics, and ethics of law in order to... While this facilitates new and valuable perspectives, it also causes problems for a more integrated approach to bioethics. 2. A Brief History of Bioethics.