
Chronology of Events Referenced

- 1605 Francis Bacon defines “euthanasia” as a physician-assisted painless passage from life
- 1735 Linnaeus classifies four races: *Africanus niger* (black), *Europaeus albus* (white), etc.
- 1803 Percival’s *Medical Ethics* introduces this neologism to the Anglo-phone medical lexicon
- 1847 Newly formed American Medical Association (AMA) adopts code based on Percival’s
- 1859 Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species . . . or the Preservation of Favoured Races*
- 1852 Publication of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin; Life among the Lowly*
- 1861–1865 American Civil War fought over the issue of black slavery and the slave trade
- 1871–1918 Unification of German principalities with Prussia, later known as Germany
- 1871–1994 Sex between men criminalized in Section 175 of the new German Criminal Code
- 1883 Francis Galton coins “eugenics” as improving a race of people by selective breeding
- 1887 US National Institutes of Health (NIH) founded as the Hygienic Laboratory
- 1895 Jost, *Das Recht auf den Tod (A Right to Death)* by *euthanasie* (i.e., killing negative life)
- 1895 Ploetz introduces *Rassenhygiene* (racial hygiene) into the German medical lexicon
- 1898 Albert Neisser is fined by a Prussian court for unconsented experiments on patients

- 1900 Prussian regulations require *patients'* informed consent to experimental interventions
- 1900 *Subjects* in Walter Reed's yellow fever experiments in Cuba sign consent forms
- 1902 Albert Moll's *Ärztliche Ethik (Physicians Ethics)* documents unconsented human experiments
- 1914–1918 World War I: approximately 40 million casualties, 20 million deaths
- 1914–1923 Turkish genocide of Armenians: 1.5 million Armenians killed
- 1918 Armistice ends a world conflict between France, UK, US, and Austria, Germany, Turkey
- 1918–1933 German Weimar Republic founded on democratic values and human rights
- 1920 League of Nations founded to facilitate peaceful international cooperation (1920–1946)
- 1920 National Socialist German Workers Party, NSDAP, or “Nazi,” party formed
- 1920 Hoche urges killing *lebensunwerten Lebens*: those living lives unworthy of being lived
- 1922–1939 German medical ethics society publishes *Ethik*, world's first medical ethics journal
- 1927 Fritz Jahr proposes a Kantian-Buddhist *bio-ethik* embracing all living entities
- 1929 Global stock market crash
- 1929–1932 Global economic depression
- 1930 Pope Pious XI's encyclical, *Casti Connubi*, condemns eugenics and birth control
- 1931 German Ministry of Health's “Guidelines for Human Experimentation on *Patients*”
- 1932–1972 US Public Health Service Study of “Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male”
- 1933–1945 Nazi Germany nationalizes health care practitioners, de-professionalizing medicine
- 1938 US Congress passes the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C)
- 1939 Germany invades Poland; Britain and France declare war; World War II commences
- 1939–1945 Nazi *Kinder-euthanasie* (child euthanasia program)

- 1939–1945 Nazi *Sonderbehandlung* (special handling) mass killing of gays and disabled
- 1940–1945 Nazi Aktion T4 (*Gnadentod*/good death) for “incurably” mentally or physically ill
- 1941 November, Franz Büchner’s anti-*euthanasie* public lecture on the Hippocratic Oath
- 1941 December 7, US enters World War II after Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor
- 1942 Nazis require Ramm’s medical ethics textbook *Ärztliche Rechts (Physicians’ Rules)*
- 1944 June 6, Operation Overlord: Allied forces invade Nazi-occupied continental Europe
- 1945 May 7–9, German Reich surrenders to Allied forces, ending World War II in Europe
- 1946 United Nations founded to replace the defunct League of Nations
- 1946 November, UN Educational, Scientific, & Cultural Organization (UNESCO) founded
- 1946 August, Andrew Ivy writes first draft of the Nuremberg Code for the ISC
- Fall, Ivy proposes a second draft of his code for adoption by the AMA
- December, AMA adopts stripped-down version of Ivy’s rules with no publicity
- December 1946–April 1947, Leo Alexander revises Ivy’s second draft of the code
- 1946 December–August 1947, Nuremberg Medical Trials (*US v. Karl Brandt, et al.*)
- 1946–1991 Cold War between US and allies and the Soviet Union (Russia) and allies
- 1947 August 20, Nuremberg verdict issued with “Code of Ethics for Permissible Research”
- 1947 World Medical Association (WMA) is founded
- 1947 AWA founded to represent physicians in the Western sector of occupied Germany
- 1948 WMA issues Declaration of Geneva, a modern version of the Hippocratic Oath
- 1948 World Health Organization (WHO) founded as a UN agency
- 1948 Bradford Hill establishes RCTs as the standard of evidence for innovative treatments

- 1948 UN issues Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on December 10
- 1949 Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS) founded
- 1949 WMA issues International Code of Medical Ethics (ICME)
- 1952–1954 Beecher-Lasagna CIA and US Army funded amphetamines and LSD experiments
- 1952 Pope Pius XII's Encyclical, *The Moral Limits of Medical Research and Treatment*
- 1953 US Secretary of Defense's memo: military research must conform to Nuremberg Code
- 1954 WMA issues *Principles for Those in Research and Experimentation*
- 1954–1975 Civil war between North Vietnam and South Vietnam
- 1955 Professor Count Gibson, MD, protests Tuskegee Study; Olansky represses him
- 1955–1970 Dr. Saul Krugman's hepatitis experiments at Willowbrook State School (NY)
- 1957 Pius XII's *Address to Anesthesiologists*, patient/family may cease "extraordinary means"
- 1958 Beecher's memo to Harvard Committee on ethical challenges in research on humans
- 1959 Beecher publishes "Experimentation in Man" in January issue of *JAMA*
- 1961 *British Medical Journal* reports that thalidomide causes congenital deformation
- 1961–1975 US enters Vietnam Civil War on the side of South Vietnam
- 1962 *Washington Post* crowns Frances Kelsey "Heroine" for preventing thalidomide disaster
- 1962 Senator Javits asks Kelsey, "Did women know thalidomide was an experimental drug?"
- 1962 Kefauver–Harris Amendment to FD&C law requires research *subjects'* informed consent
- 1962 Frances Kelsey receives Medal of Freedom from US President John F. Kennedy
- 1962 Maurice Pappworth publishes "Human Guinea Pigs—A Warning" in a popular magazine
- 1962 Clegg's unauthorized publication of a draft of the Declaration of Helsinki in the *BMJ*

- 1962–1965 Vatican II: Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican reforms Catholic liturgy
- 1963–1965 Papal Birth Control Commission (Pontifical Commission on the Family)
- 1963 President John Kennedy assassinated, Lyndon Johnson, (1908–1973) is US President
- 1963–1969 President Johnson’s: “Great Society” medicare/medicaid and civil rights laws
- 1963 Lawyer Hyman charges Southam’s unconsented experiments violate “Nuremberg Code”
- 1964 US Civil Rights Act: forbids ethnic, racial, religious, and sexual/gender discrimination
- 1964 WMA’s Declaration of Helsinki, *Ethical Principles Medical Research on Human Subjects*
- 1964 FDA regulations formalize 1962 Helsinki requirements for subjects’ informed consent
- 1964 Beecher objects to new FDA regulations on consent, challenges Kelsey’s authority
- 1964 Dr. Louis Lasagna publishes a modernized version of the Hippocratic Oath
- 1964 Schatz writes letter to CDC protesting Tuskegee Study, Yobs resolutely ignores it
- 1965 July 30, Medicaid and Medicare enacted for President Johnson’s Great Society program
- 1965–1966 Beecher–Pappworth correspondence on “outing” unethical experiments
- 1965 March, Beecher presents 18 examples of unethical experiments to media at Brook Lodge
- 1965 March, Beecher: “Guidelines for Clinical Investigation,” published in *JAMA*
- 1966 June, Beecher’s “Ethics and Clinical Research,” in *New England Journal of Medicine*
- 1966 November: Buxtun reports to CDC comparing its Syphilis Study to Nazi experiments
- 1966 AMA endorses WMA’s 1964 Declaration of Helsinki on ethics of research on humans
- 1966 Dr. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross’s *On Death and Dying* inspires Death with Dignity movement

- 1967 Maurice Pappworth publishes *Human Guinea Pigs: Experimentation on Man*
- 1967 Kelsey demoted to “bare desk” bureaucrat in response to industry and media pressure
- 1968 Media ignores Jenkins’s CORE’s *Drum* newsletter critique of the CDC’s Syphilis Study
- 1968 April 4, American civil rights leader Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated
- 1968 African American riots in Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, DC, Detroit, New York, etc.
- 1968 AMA Judicial Council authorized to expel member societies for racial discrimination
- 1968 June 6, presidential candidate, ex-US Attorney General Robert Kennedy assassinated
- 1968 Paul II’s encyclical letter *Humanae Vitae* prohibits Catholics’ use of contraception
- 1969 February 6, Blue Ribbon CDC panel discusses Tuskegee Study, votes to continue it
- 1969 Callahan and Gaylin found Hastings Center to focus on ethical issues instead of politics
- 1969 Medical school educators form the Society for Health and Human Values (1969–1997)
- 1969 George Wiley’s negotiates A Patient’s Rights agreement with the Joint Commission
- 1970 May 4, Kent State, National Guard kills black students protesting invasion of Cambodia
- 1970 Student protests against Vietnam War erupt at US colleges and universities nationwide
- 1970 *The Population Bomb: Population Control or Race to Oblivion* is a bestseller
- 1970 Beecher publishes *Research and the Individual: Human Studies*
- 1970 V. R. Potter uses the word “bioethics” in an article proposing an ethics for the biosphere
- 1971 Boston Women’s Health Book’s *Our Bodies, Our Selves: A Book by and for Women*
- 1971 André Hellegers founds the Kennedy Institute of Bioethics at Georgetown University

- 1972 Jay Katz and Alex Capron publish *Experimentation with Human Beings* (Russell Sage)
- 1972 July 25, AP reporter Jean Heller reports Buxtun's revelations on the Tuskegee Study
- 1972 August 28, DHEW forms the Ad Hoc Advisory Panel on the Tuskegee Syphilis Study
- 1972 October 25, Ad Hoc Panel recommends termination of Tuskegee Syphilis Study
- 1973 January, US Supreme Court decriminalizes abortion, *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113
- 1973 April 24, DHEW Advisory Committee on Tuskegee publishes its final report
- 1973 Senator Ted Kennedy's "bioethics" hearings; Callahan, Gaylin, Veatch, etc. testify
- 1973 July 10, *Kaimowitz v. Michigan* incarcerated consent rejected, cites "Nuremberg Code"
- 1973 American Hospital Association "affirms" A Patient's Bill of Rights, but no enforcement
- 1973 Callahan publishes "Bioethics as a Discipline," in *Hastings Center Studies*, vol. 1, no. 1
- 1974 Library of Congress makes "bioethics" subject heading, citing Callahan's *Studies* article
- 1974 Gorovitz's Summer Institute on Medicine & Morals, trains philosophers as bioethicists
- 1974 July 12, National Research Act creates the first national "bioethics" commission
- 1974 August 9, Pres. Richard Nixon resigns over his burglary of Democratic headquarters
- 1974–1978 National Commission for Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical Research
- 1975–1987 Kennedy Institute of Ethics publishes *Bioethics* bibliography, Walters is editor
- 1976 *In Re Quinlan*: disconnecting ventilators not homicide, requires ethics committee review
- 1976 *New England Journal of Medicine* publishes Harvard hospitals' non-resuscitation policies
- 1978 National Commission's *Belmont Report*: three ethical principles for research on humans

- 1978 International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) founded
- 1978 ICMJE: medical journals to reject research not compliant with Declaration of Helsinki
- 1978 Kennedy Institute of Ethics publishes *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*, Warren Reich editor.
- 1979–2019 Beauchamp and Childress publish *Principles of Biomedical Ethics*, eight editions
- 1980–1983 President’s Commission Ethical Problems in Medicine and Biomedical Research
- 1982 *Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach*, by A. Jonsen, M. Siegler, and W. Winslade
- 1983 President’s Commission’s report, *Deciding to Forego Life-Sustaining Treatment*
- 1986–1997 Society for Bioethics Consultation founded, incorporated into ASBH in 1997
- 1990 AMA’s “Fundamental Elements of Patient-Physician Relationship” embraces bioethics
- 1991 *Strangers at the Bedside . . . How Bioethics . . . Transformed Decision Making*, David Rothman
- 1992 *The Nazi Doctors and the Nuremberg Code*, George Annas and Michael Grodin, editors
- 1992 *When Medicine Went Mad: Bioethics and the Holocaust*, Arthur Caplan, editor
- 1994–1997 American Association for Bioethics (AAB); incorporated into ASBH in 1997
- 1998 Pioneering bioethicist Albert Jonsen’s (semi-autobiographical) *Birth of Bioethics*
- 1998 AAB, SBC, SHHV merge as American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH)
- 1999 AMA recognizes patient autonomy and patients’ right to forego life-sustaining treatment
- [Bioethics paradigm, discourse, and practices normalized as standard medical ethics]

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