

## FOREWORD

We have the capability to prolong people's lives by replacing defective organs with those of other people and non-human animals. We approach a time when we can create organs needed for transplants from the stem cells of embryos. We feel obligated to prolong and improve people's lives with organ transplants while at the same showing due respect to the donors, providers, and sellers, living or dead. How should we proceed? What are the best alternatives? What happens when the worlds of medicine and ethics collide?

Charles Hinkley acquaints us fully with the rich literature on the subject, the issues and value conflicts that arise, and the range of answers commentators have offered. We learn about the routine retrieval of some organs from the newly dead and how professionals assume consent in some situations. We become acquainted with how competing conceptions of death affect the retrieval and transplantation of organs. We see how controversial issues surround matters like these. Can we wrong the dead? Do we wrong the dead when we presume consent? Who are the dead?

Throughout the work, Hinkley demonstrates how conflicting values and our sacrificing one to the other leads to regret and guilt. He joins those commentators who urge us to avoid these situations when we can but goes much further as he takes a fresh look at our moral lives. He argues for their being creative endeavors that offer alternatively viable resolutions to these conflicts that provide occasions for moral growth. In this way, *The Moral Conflicts of Organ Retrieval* ingeniously advances our thinking about the ethics of organ transplantation as it does so for the field of ethics itself.

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