

Annotation

POPOVÁ, L. Suicide, Assisted Suicide, Physicians' Responsibility. Prague 2009. Thesis. Charles University in Prague. Catholic Theological Faculty. Department of Theological Ethics and Theology of Spirituality. Supervisor PhDr.

Keywords: suicide, assisted suicide, responsibility, physician, patient

The thesis first defines the basic terms and then describes suicide from the ethical perspective as a choice between life and death. It also shows the Christian ethics point of view. Then it focuses on the assisted suicide, which ethically relates to the topic, being a choice between life and death – but also contains suffering and pain in peoples' lives, concerning mainly ill people and dying people. Here, Christian ethics point of view is described, as well. Due to the wide scope of the topic, the following chapter specifies the relation physician-patient, looking closely at the amount of their responsibility during the treatment and at the end of the patient's life, comparing the past and present situation. Then there is a chapter on palliative care, which is, in my opinion, the right approach to the physician-patient relation in the contemporary medicine, and also a kind of a solution when discussing euthanasia or assisted suicide issues. On the basis of interviews, the last chapter takes a look at lives of three people who attempted suicide.