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General Information

The *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry (JBI)* is an international, peer-reviewed journal that provides a forum for different disciplinary perspectives on ethical, cultural and social issues in medicine, healthcare, life sciences and biotechnology.

We welcome submissions of original research (both empirical and theoretical) into established domains of bioethical inquiry, such as clinical practice, medical research and biotechnology. We welcome commentary on questions of pressing contemporary relevance, such as the implications of current world events for the health of populations, and critical analyses of specific social policies with respect to their impact on health, welfare and systems of power. We also welcome critical reflections on medicine and conventional bioethics, especially from perspectives that are less commonly represented in existing journals.

The *JBI* will consider contributions from any relevant discipline, including philosophy, bioethics, sociology, health law, anthropology, psychology, feminism, linguistics, cultural studies, disability studies, history, literary theory and literature. We encourage authors to write in a style that is accessible to readers from disciplines other than their own.

The journal welcomes manuscripts in the following areas:

Original research: (including empirical research and theoretical research or conceptual reflections) (Up to 7,000 words with an abstract and keywords)

- Review articles (Up to 5,000 words with an abstract and key words)

Critical commentary on articles published in the *JBI* (Up to 2,000 words)

Critical perspectives and opinion pieces on issues of contemporary interest (Up to 2,000 words)

- Case reports and case responses (Up to 1,000 words)

- Book reviews (Up to 1,500 words)

Letters to the Editor (Up to 500 words)

Submission Guidelines

Manuscripts submitted to the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* must be offered exclusively to the Journal and must conform to Chicago Author Date style (Chicago Cursive).

If you are submitting a randomised controlled trial please follow the CONSORT guidelines (<http://www.consort-statement.org>)

If you are submitting a systematic review please follow the QUOROM guidelines (<http://www.consort-statement.org/evidence.html#quorum>)

Submission of a manuscript implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

If a submitted article overlaps considerably with previously published articles or articles concurrently submitted elsewhere, copies of these should be included with the submitted manuscript.

Online Manuscript Submission

Authors, editors and reviewers of the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* can now make use of Editorial Manager, Springer's fully web-enabled online manuscript submission and review system. Authors should submit their manuscripts online. Electronic submission substantially reduces the editorial processing and reviewing times and shortens overall publication times. Please follow the hyperlink "Submit online" on the right of the *JBI* screen and upload all of your manuscript files following the instructions given on the screen. Editorial Manager offers authors the option of tracking the progress of the review process of manuscripts in real time.

Editorial Manager offers easy and straightforward log-in and submission procedures. This system supports a wide range of submission file formats: for manuscripts - Word, WordPerfect, RTF, TXT and LaTeX; for figures - TIFF, GIF, JPEG, EPS, PPT, and Postscript.

NOTE: By using Editorial Manager, it is NOT necessary to submit the manuscript also in printout + disk. In case you encounter any difficulties while submitting your manuscript on line, please contact the Managing Editor, Ms. Bronwen Morrell by email, bronwenmorrell@gmail.com.

Manuscripts should be submitted to: <http://www.edmgr.com/jbin/>

Authorship

Authorship should be based on substantial contribution to:

- a. Conception and design of the article, or acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data
- b. Drafting of the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
- c. Final approval of the version to be published.

Conditions (a), (b), and (c) must all be met by each author. Participation solely in the acquisition of funding or the collection of data does not justify authorship. Each author must also be prepared to take public responsibility for the article. The order of authors should be the joint decision of all authors.

Funding and Disclosure of Competing Interests

Authors are required to indicate whether they have any financial or professional relationships which may pose a competing interest.

A competing interest exists when professional judgment concerning a primary interest (such as patients' welfare or the validity of research) may be influenced by a secondary interest (such as financial gain or personal rivalry). It may arise for the authors of the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* article when they have a financial professional interest that may influence, probably without their knowing, their interpretation of their results or those of others.

To make the best decision about how to deal with a paper, we should know about any such competing interest that authors may have. We are not aiming to eradicate dualities of interests as they are inevitable and we will not reject papers simply because you have duality of interest. But we will make a declaration about whether or not you have competing interests.

Authors are also required to declare all sources of funding for their research. Authors must describe the role of study sponsor(s), if any, in study design; data collection, analysis and interpretation; and in the writing of the article. They should also state whether the supporting source(s) controlled or influenced the decision to submit the final manuscript for publication. If sponsor(s) had no such involvement, this should be stated.

An Author Disclosure Statement is available on the Springer *JB*I website.

Ethical Approval

All experimental investigations on human subjects must include a statement in the Methods section that the subjects gave their informed consent. The name of the ethics committee that gave approval for the study must also be stated in the Methods section. In addition, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) or with the Helsinki Declaration (1964, last revised in 2000) of the World Medical Association. Do not use patients' names, initials, or hospital numbers, especially in any illustrative material.

When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether the institution's or the National Research Council's guide for, or any national law on, the care and use of laboratory animals was followed.

Studies involving Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander subjects must also state that they have been approved by the relevant local Indigenous representatives.

Patient Consent

Case reports must preserve patient anonymity and any identifying information should not be published unless it is essential for understanding the case.

Authors must also provide a signed statement (to be downloaded when submitting your article through Editorial Manager – see below). A patient consent form is available at <http://www.springer.com/medicine/journal/11673> for securing consent from the patient (s) or their surrogate giving permission for the publication of any identifying material. Where authors do not wish to include a signed patient consent to publish in the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* reasons in support of this decision must be provided in a letter to the Editors accompanying the contribution.

Covering Letter to Editors (In Comments field in the Editorial Manager on-line submission system)

A covering letter should be sent with each manuscript. This should detail:

- why the article should be published in the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* (in brief, a few lines only)
- confirmation that the manuscript content (in part or in full) has not been submitted concurrently or published elsewhere

Manuscript Presentation

The journal's language is English (see below for Abstracts in other languages). British English or American English spelling and terminology may be used, but either one should be followed consistently throughout the article. Leave adequate margins on all sides to allow for reviewers' remarks. Please double-space all material, including notes and references. Quotations of more than 40 words should be set off clearly, either by indenting the left-hand margin or by using a smaller typeface. Use double quotation marks for direct quotations and single quotation marks for quotations within quotations and for words or phrases used in a special sense.

Articles and abstracts must be in English, but the journal accepts additional abstracts in other languages of the author's choice. Such abstracts are optional and must be provided by the authors themselves. Authors need to certify that they are faithful translation of the English original, and they must be supplied in Unicode (see www.unicode.org for details), especially if using non-roman characters. Such abstracts in other languages will carry the following disclaimer:

"This abstract is provided by the author(s), and is for convenience of the users only. The author certifies that the translation faithfully represents the version in English, which is the published Abstract of record and is the only Abstract to be used for reference and citation."

Title Page

The title page should include:

The name(s) of the author(s)

A concise and informative title

A subtitle may be used to supplement and thereby shorten an excessively long main title.

Source reference: A footnote that an article was a part of a research project, was presented at a meeting, etc.

Provide the email address, telephone and fax numbers of the corresponding author. Please also state the following for *each* author:

Full name

Qualifications (up to 2 per author)

Affiliation(s)

Address(es)

Where there is more than one author, indicate to whom proofs and offprints should be sent.

Word counts for the main text and for the abstract: do not include references, tables, figures, acknowledgements or title page.

Abstracts, Keywords and Discipline/Topic

The abstract should be brief and informative, consisting of 100 to 150 words. It should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references.

Provide 4 to 6 key words using Msh terms from Index Medicus

Nominate at least one discipline and one issue area from the list provided.

Main Text

Text Formatting

Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 10-point Times Roman) for text.

Use italics for emphasis.

Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.

Do not use field functions.

Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.

Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.

Use the equation editor or MathType for equations. Note: If you use Word 2007, do not create the equations with the default equation editor but use the Microsoft equation editor or MathType instead.

Save your file in doc format. Do not submit docx files.

Headings: the relative importance of headings and subheadings should be clear. Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings.

New paragraphs should be indicated by clear indentation.

Block quotations clearly distinguished from the running text.

Tables and figures, if any, must be mentioned in the text, and each numbered with Arabic numerals followed by the title. Table footnotes should be marked with superscript numbers.

Style Guidelines

Use abbreviations sparingly, stating in full at first use.

First-, second-, third-, and fourth-order headings should be clearly distinguishable.

Give all measurements in SI units (except blood pressure, which is in mmHg).

Supply reference ranges where appropriate.

Drugs should be referred to by their generic, not their proprietary names.

Do not include any headers and footers or automatic referencing in the manuscript, just page numbering.

Footnotes

Footnotes on the title page are not given reference symbols. Footnotes to the text are numbered consecutively; those to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data).

After the Main Text

Acknowledgements of people, grants, funds etc. must be brief and should be placed in a separate section before the reference list. Acknowledge funding sources (written in full) and people who have contributed to the study but do not qualify as authors. Do not include secretarial staff. It is the responsibility of the principal author to obtain permission to acknowledge individuals.

A statement of competing interests

Details of funding support

Details of patient consent (where relevant for Case Reports)

References: these should be listed alphabetically, typed doubled spaced at the end of the article on separate pages, and in the text referred to by author and date

Appendices (if any)

Figures (if any)

Tables (if any)

References

Accuracy of references is the responsibility of authors. Use the “Chicago Author Date” or “Chicago Cursive” style of in text referencing, as described in the Chicago Manual of Style (a condensed overview is available at www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html) and cite journal names in full. Cite personal communications and unpublished papers in the text, not in the reference list. Obtain written permission from people cited, and give their titles, position and affiliations.

References to books, journal articles, articles in collections and conference or workshop proceedings, and technical reports should be collected in an alphabetical list at the end of the paper. Articles in preparation or articles submitted for publication, unpublished observations, personal communications, etc. should not be included in the reference list but should only be mentioned in the article text (e.g., T. Moore, personal communication).

The following sample references show different sources. For more sample references, please refer to the site of the Chicago Manual of Style at www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

Book

1. *One author*

(Doniger 1999, 65)

Doniger, Wendy. 1999. *Splitting the difference*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

2. *Two authors*

(Cowlshaw and Dunbar 2000, 104–7)

Cowlshaw, Guy, and Robin Dunbar. 2000. *Primate conservation biology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

3. *Four or more authors*

(Laumann et al. 1994, 262)

Laumann, Edward O., John H. Gagnon, Robert T. Michael, and Stuart Michaels. 1994. *The social organization of sexuality: Sexual practices in the United States*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

4. *Editor, translator or compiler instead of author*

(Lattimore 1951, 91–92)

Lattimore, Richmond, trans. 1951. *The Iliad of Homer*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

5. *Chapter or other part of book*

(Wiese 2006, 101–2)

Wiese, Andrew. 2006. “The house I live in”: Race, class, and African American suburban dreams in the postwar United States. In *The new suburban history*, ed. Kevin M. Kruse and Thomas J. Sugrue, 99–119. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Journal article

1. *Article in print journal*

(Smith 1998, 639)

Smith, John Maynard. 1998. The origin of altruism. *Nature* 393: 639–40.

2. *Article in online journal*

(Hlatky et al. 2002)

Hlatky, Mark A., Derek Boothroyd, Eric Vittinghoff, Penny Sharp, and Mary A. Whooley. 2002. Quality-of-life and depressive symptoms in postmenopausal women after receiving hormone therapy: Results from the Heart and Estrogen/Progestin Replacement Study (HERS) trial. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 287, no. 5 (February 6), <http://jama.ama-assn.org/issues/v287n5/rfull/joc10108.html#aainfo> (accessed January 7, 2004).

Website

(Evanston Public Library Board of Trustees)

Evanston Public Library Board of Trustees. Evanston Public Library strategic plan, 2000–2010: A decade of outreach. Evanston Public Library. <http://www.epl.org/library/strategic-plan-00.html>. Accessed 1 October 2006.

Figures and Artwork

Supply all figures electronically. Indicate what graphics program was used to create the artwork. For vector graphics, the preferred format is EPS; for halftones, please use TIFF format. MS Office files are also acceptable. Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files. Name your figure files with "Fig" and the figure number, e.g., Fig1.eps.

Line Art

Definition: Black and white graphic with no shading. Do not use faint lines and/or lettering and check that all lines and lettering within the figures are legible at final size. All lines should be at least 0.1 mm (0.3 pt) wide. Line drawings should have a minimum resolution of 1200 dpi. Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.

Halftone Art

Definition: Photographs, drawings, or paintings with fine shading, etc. If any magnification is used in the photographs, indicate this by using scale bars within the figures themselves. Halftones should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

Combination Art

Definition: a combination of halftone and line art, e.g., halftones containing line drawing, extensive lettering, color diagrams, etc. Combination artwork should have a minimum resolution of 600 dpi.

Colour Art

Colour art is free of charge for online publication. If black and white will be shown in the print version, make sure that the main information will still be visible. Many colours are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white. A simple way to check this is to make a xerographic copy to see if the necessary distinctions between the different colours are still apparent. If the figures will be printed in black and white, do not refer to colour in the captions. Colour illustrations should be submitted as RGB (8 bits per channel).

Figure Lettering

To add lettering, it is best to use Helvetica or Arial (sans serif fonts). Keep lettering consistently sized throughout your final-sized artwork, usually about 2–3 mm (8–12 pt). Variance of type size within an illustration should be minimal, e.g., do not use 8-pt type on an axis and 20-pt type for the axis label. Avoid effects such as shading, outline letters, etc. Do not include titles or captions into your illustrations.

Figure Numbering

All figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals. Figures should always be cited in the text in consecutive numerical order. Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.). If an appendix appears in your article/chapter and it contains one or more figures, continue the consecutive numbering of the main text. Do not number the appendix figures, "A1, A2, A3, etc."

Figure Captions

Each figure should have a concise caption describing accurately what the figure depicts. Figure captions begin with the term Fig. in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type. No punctuation is to be included after the number, nor is any punctuation to be placed at the end of the caption. Identify all elements found in the figure in the figure caption; and use boxes, circles, etc., as coordinate points in graphs. Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption.

Figure Placement and Size

When preparing your figures, size figures to fit in the column width. For most journals the figures should be 39 mm, 84 mm, 129 mm, or 174 mm wide and not higher than 234 mm. For books and book-sized journals, the figures should be 80 mm or 122 mm wide and not higher than 198 mm.

Tables

All tables are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.

Tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.

For each table, please supply a table heading. The table title should explain clearly and concisely the components of the table. Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the table heading. In tables, footnotes are preferable to long explanatory material in either the heading or body of the table. Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.

Present all tables in double-spaced type on separate pages. Simplify the information as much as possible, keeping the number of columns to a minimum and the headings short. Information in tables should not be duplicated in the text. Please minimize use of horizontal and vertical lines in tables.

Finally, please place the tables after the figure legends in the manuscript.

Electronic Supplementary Material

Electronic supplementary material may consist of

Information that cannot be printed: animations, video clips, sound recordings

Information that is more convenient in electronic form: sequences, spectral data, etc.

Large original data, e.g. additional tables, illustrations, etc.

Electronic supplementary material will be published in the online version only.

Submission

Supply all supplementary material in standard file formats. To accommodate user downloads, please keep in mind that larger-sized files may require very long download times and that some users may experience other problems during downloading.

Audio, Video and Animations

Always use MPEG-1 (.mpg) format.

Text and Presentations

Submit your material in PDF format; .doc or .ppt files are not suitable for long-term viability. A collection of figures may also be combined in a PDF file.

Spreadsheets

Spreadsheets should be converted to PDF if no interaction with the data is intended. If the readers should be encouraged to make their own calculations, spreadsheets should be submitted as .xls files (MS Excel).

Specialized Formats

Specialized formats such as .pdb (chemical), .wrl (VRML), .nb (Mathematica notebook), and .tex can also be supplied.

Collecting Multiple Files

It is possible to collect multiple files in a .zip or .gz file.

Numbering

If supplying any supplementary material, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables. Name your files accordingly, e.g., Animation3.mpg.

Captions

For each supplementary material, please supply a concise caption describing the content of the file.

Processing of Supplementary Files

Electronic supplementary material will be published as received from the author without any conversion, editing, or reformatting.

Reviewing Procedure

The objective of the reviewing process is to facilitate the development and publication of high quality material in the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*. Ideally, the review process should occur as an interactive dialogue involving authors, editors and reviewers (who also represent potential readers of *JB*). To assist in this process the identities of authors are to be open to reviewers. Reviewers are given the choice of remaining anonymous or signing their reviews openly. The latter will still be provided with the opportunity to provide confidential comments to editors.

Reviewers are selected on the basis of their expertise, special knowledge or experience relevant to the manuscript under assessment. Each manuscript selected for review will be sent to two peer reviewers, one of whom will have expertise in a discipline and/or topic area relevant to the manuscript. Editors will seek reviews that both scrutinise the substantive content of a paper and address its potential for contributing to cross-disciplinary dialogues.

For the full *JB* Reviewing Policy please see the *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*, Volume 5(1), pp. 93-99.

After Acceptance

Upon acceptance of your article you will receive a link to the special Author Query Application at Springer's web page where you can sign the Copyright Transfer Statement online and indicate whether you wish to order OpenChoice, paper offprints, or printing of figures in colour. Once the Author Query Application has been completed, your article will be processed and you will receive the proofs.

Proofs

The purpose of the proof is to check for typesetting or conversion errors and the completeness and accuracy of the text, tables and figures. Substantial changes in content, e.g., new results, corrected values, title and authorship, are not allowed without the approval of the Editor. After online publication, further changes can only be made in the form of an Erratum, which will be hyperlinked to the article.

Proofs will be sent to the corresponding author by e-mail (if no e-mail address is available or appears to be out of order, proofs will be sent by regular mail). Your response, with or without corrections, should be returned within 72 hours. Please do not make any changes to the PDF file. Minor corrections (+/- 10) should be sent as an e-mail attachment to: proofscorrection@springer.com.

Always quote the four-letter journal code (JBIN), the article number and the DO No. from your proof in the subject field of your e-mail, e.g. JBIN117. Extensive corrections must be clearly marked on a printout of the PDF file and should be sent by first-class mail (airmail overseas).

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No page charges are levied to authors or their institutions except for colour pages. Springer offers two options for reproducing colour illustrations in your article:

Free online colour. The colour figure will only appear in colour on www.springer.com and not in the printed version of the journal.

Online and printed colour. The colour figures will appear in colour on our website and in the printed version of the journal. Authors are expected to make a contribution towards the extra costs

Offprints

Twenty-five offprints of each published article will be provided free of charge. Additional offprints can be ordered by the corresponding author by means of an offprint order form supplied with the proofs.

Online First

The article will be published online after receipt of corrected proofs. This is the official first publication citable with the DOI. After release of the printed version, the paper can also be cited by issue and page numbers.

Springer Open Choice

In addition to the normal publication process (whereby an article is submitted to the journal and access to that article is granted to customers who have purchased a subscription), Springer provides an alternative publishing option: Springer Open Choice. A Springer Open Choice article receives all the benefits of a regular subscription-based article, but in addition is made available publicly through Springer's online platform SpringerLink. We regret that Springer Open Choice cannot be ordered for published articles.

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Additional Information

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