Drawn from the rich collection of The Bioethics Research Library, participants of the Intensive Bioethics Course are invited to enjoy

A BIOETHICS MOVIE MATINEE

Thursday, June 9, 2016, 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm WG 201

You may come to any portion of the program; however, if you are seeking credit for the session, please plan to stay. Video selections highlight resources that might be used to enrich course syllabi, to promote community or group discussion, and/or to inform ethics committees. These titles represent only a small sample of the vast array of documentary and commercial films available. To maximize the number of programs viewed, no discussion of the ethical issues depicted in these films will occur during this session but may take place informally during the remainder of the IBC. Video clips have been chosen to cover a range of bioethics topics and issues.

I always want to acknowledge and honor the families and individuals who generously share their lives in these video programs so that we might learn from, reflect on, and teach others about their experiences with the hope of improving ethical practice and living.

NOTE: An interactive session on using films to teach or to lead discussion of bioethics issues will immediately follow from 5:30-6:30 pm. We will have a chance to discuss the films and to explore some possible ways in which you might use them in your classroom or other work. Additional handouts listing resources for identifying and acquiring bioethics-related videos and some suggestions for effectively using them will be distributed.

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2016 Video Selections

Cutting Edge (Genetic Repairman Sequence), 2000, 15 minutes, 30 seconds (segment will be shown), color, DVD, Bethesda Academy for the Performing Arts, 4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland 20814; tel. 301-961-6060, Janet Stanford, Artistic Director ext. 1691; http://www.imaginationstage.org/, approx. $50. Born from the creative idea that theater could introduce young people to biotechnology, this short feature teaches the basics of genetics and raises some of the ethical questions surrounding genetic testing in a fun and accessible manner. The main story concerns a high school student considering carrier testing and the attitudes of her friends and her sister (who is now blind because of the inherited condition for which the testing would be done) about her decision. This clip offers a funny glimpse of genetic engineering. [This classic is included because it is one of the few funny bioethics movie clips about which I am aware.]

Who Decides: Ethics for Dental Practitioners, 2015, 8 minutes, 12 seconds (segment will be shown), color, DVD, American College of Dentists and IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis) School of Dentistry, Indiana University, http://www.dentaethics.org/, scroll down to “Resources” section and select “Ethical Dilemma Videos.” In this program, Dr. Kingsley, DDS is concerned about the significant oral health needs of her patient Mr. Whitlock and proposes a treatment
plan that would address these issues first; her patient, however, has other priorities. What should the dentist do in this situation? This program is part of a set of eight videos that may be used for individual or practice education. Each case-study video provides some possible ways the ethical situation might be addressed and asks the viewer to decide how she or he would respond. Data about the resolutions selected by other viewers may be accessed to help viewers assess and think about their responses. [This clip is a good vignette that brings up issues of professional expertise and autonomy, patient autonomy, and beneficence / non-maleficence.]

**Advantageous**, 2015, 90 minutes (trailer will be shown), color, DVD; may be viewed online via Netflix or for $3.99 through Amazon Video. In a future time and city, Gwen works as a spokesperson for a large corporation offering cosmetic surgery. Just at the time when Gwen’s daughter Jules has the opportunity to attend a high-quality, but expensive high school, Gwen is fired from her job because she is deemed “too old” to be the face of the company. Some underhanded behavior by the head of the company means that no one will hire Gwen and facing destitution, Gwen volunteers to participate in a radical new experimental procedure (spoiler alert: to transfer her mind into a new body) in an effort to continue her career and be able to afford to pay for her daughter’s schooling. [Excellent film for prompting discussions about personal identity, mind-body relationship, informed consent, research ethics, etc.]

**Hard to Believe**, 2015, 56 minutes (segment will be shown), color, DVD, Swoop Films, [http://www.HardToBelieveMovie.com](http://www.HardToBelieveMovie.com), $300 (educational use license). This documentary summarizes the evidence gathered from various sources indicating that the Chinese Government is, and has been, engaging in forced live organ harvesting from executed Chinese prisoners – often prisoners of conscience – imprisoned and killed for their beliefs rather than for actual crimes. This issue has gained some attention around the world, but has engendered very little response especially in the United States. Film website offers trailers and additional information [http://www.hardtobelievemovie.com/](http://www.hardtobelievemovie.com/). Swoop Films provides a screening and discussion guide.

**Perfect Strangers**, 2014, 69 minutes (director’s clip will be shown), color, DVD, produced, directed, and edited by Jan Krawitz, a professor in the Stanford MFA Program in Documentary Film & Video; [http://www.perfectstrangersmovie.com](http://www.perfectstrangersmovie.com). This documentary explores the extreme altruism that guides a select set of living kidney donors who offer their kidneys to strangers in need without any expectation of benefit. After learning about the need for donors and the number of people who die waiting for organs, Ellie (Eldonna) decides to offer one of her kidneys. Through website of non-profit MatchingDonors ([http://www.matchingdonors.com/life/index.cfm](http://www.matchingdonors.com/life/index.cfm)) a site that works with only living donors, Ellie meets Kathy, who requires nightly dialysis due to a polycystic kidney disease, and commits to give her a kidney. Upon discovering that they are an antigen mismatch, Ellie and Kathy enter the organ pool as a donor-recipient pair…but after three years of waiting, Ellie decides to offer her kidney as a completely non-directed donation because she is concerned she will grow too old to donate. What are we to make of the extreme gift of living, non-directed donation? [We are lucky to have the filmmaker Jan Krawitz with us tonight.]

**Iranian Kidney Bargain Sale**, 2007, 60 minutes (trailer will be shown), color, DVD, Malla Grapengiesser (producer) and Nima Sarvestani (director), ITVS (Independent Television Service, funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting) [http://itvs.org/films/iranian-kidney-bargain-sale](http://itvs.org/films/iranian-kidney-bargain-sale). Iran is the only country in the world with a legal organ market for kidneys. This film explores the multiple ethical issues raised even when organs are being sold legally with government support and coordination.
Just Keep Breathing: Moral Distress in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), 2014, 57 minutes (segments will be shown); non-fiction film; [http://www.justkeepbreathingfilm.com](http://www.justkeepbreathingfilm.com); view on demand rent $4.99, purchase $20; DVD purchase $30 home; $100 institutions; discussion forum may be found through the Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/justkeepbreathingfilm](https://www.facebook.com/justkeepbreathingfilm). Moral distress arises when professionals feel they have participated in (or were unable to prevent) unethical actions.” They often feel that they have not met their moral obligations and their sense of integrity is damaged or threatened. Supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, researchers spent 5 years collecting over 60 stories from health care members working in 8 pediatric intensive care units (PICUs) in Canada. Based on those stories both a play and this non-fiction film were developed to break the silence around moral distress and encourage dialogue. Principal Investigator was Dr. Wendy Austin, University of Alberta. Co-investigators were Dr. Daniel Garros, University of Alberta & Stollery Children's Hospital; Dr. Franco Carnevalle, PhD, McGill University, Montreal; Dr. Artur Frank, University of Calgary; and Dr. Pamela Brett-MacLean, University of Alberta. Persons interviewed included dieticians, nurses, intensivists, medical residents/clinical fellows, respiratory therapist and social workers. “Five patterns of stories were identified: Stories Bearing Witness, Stories of Collusion, Stories of Resistance, Untold Stories, and Stories of Legend.”

Beautiful Sin, 2014, 56 minutes (segment will be shown), documentary, Spanish (with English subtitles) & English, color, DVD. Women Make Movies; [http://www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com); orders@wmm.com; $350 (educational use license) Costa Rica is the only country in the world that bans IVF (in vitro fertilization). Through the stories of four Costa Rican couples, Ms. Gabriela Quirós, filmmaker/journalist and daughter of a Costa Rican father and American mother, movingly tracks this two decade long story from the first Costa Rican IVF baby born in October 1995 to the ban on IVF in 2000 to the 2010 decision of International Human Rights Court recommending the legalization of IVF again and the legislative-religious stalemate that continues to the present day.

Film selection, editing, and descriptions provided by Laura J. Bishop, Ph.D., Head of Academic Programs, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, IBC June 2016; bishopl@georgetown.edu