



2024

*Research and Scholarship for an Informed Social Response to Human Life Questions*

## Are Safeguards Safe: Grave Concerns Regarding MAiD

Online lecture presented by **David Shannon and Dr. Ramona Coelho**

**Thursday, November 14 at 8pm (ET)**

**Online via Zoom**

**Register at [deveber.org](http://deveber.org) or email [bioethics@deveber.org](mailto:bioethics@deveber.org)**

Speaking from a legal, academic and personal perspective David Shannon and Dr. Ramona Coelho address many of the underlying causes of the recent exponential rise in MAiD cases and its implications for the disability community and medical practice.

David Shannon is a member of the Law Society of Ontario practicing health law in Thunder Bay, ON. Shannon has won numerous prestigious awards and honours, such as the Order of Ontario and the Order of Canada for his work advancing the rights of disabled persons and other minority groups in Canada and abroad. He is co-editor of the book *Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) in Canada: Critical Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives*, Springer Nature.

Dr. Ramona Coelho is a family physician in London, ON whose practice largely cares for marginalized persons. Dr. Coelho is a senior fellow with Macdonald Laurier Institute. She has testified before Parliament and has been published in newspapers and journals laying out the dangers of legal euthanasia. She is co-editor of the upcoming book, *Unravelling MAiD in Canada: Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide as Medical Care*, McGill University Press.

David Shannon and Dr. Ramona Coelho are members of the MAiD Death Review Committee. In collaboration with the Office of the Chief Coroner, they offer multidisciplinary expertise in the review of MAiD deaths in Ontario to assist in public safety concerns.

We hope you can join us on **Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 8pm (ET)** for this free, online presentation concerning the impact of MAiD on the disability and medical practice communities.



# Palliative Care: The Better Choice

In-person lecture presented by Dr. Paul Zeni and Bob Parke

Saturday, November 23 at 10:30am  
All Saints' Roman Catholic Church (in the parish hall)  
1415 Royal York Road, Etobicoke, ON  
Register at [deveber.org](http://deveber.org) or email [bioethics@deveber.org](mailto:bioethics@deveber.org)

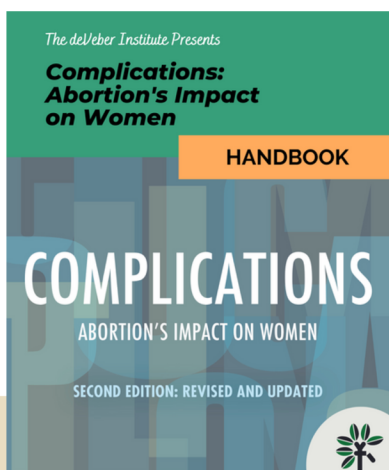
Speaking from a medical and bioethics perspective, Dr. Paul Zeni and Bob Parke discuss the many strengths of palliative care including opportunity for legacy, individualized support, and grief counseling. Dr. Zeni contrasts the broad scope of palliative care potential against the real side of MAiD – what MAiD doesn't provide. Parke highlights the importance of advance care planning as the gift you give yourself, your loved ones, and the healthcare team.

Dr. Paul Zeni is a family physician in Georgetown, ON. He shares a family practice with his wife, Dr. Deborah Zeni, and together they provide medical care for all ages—including prenatal care and palliative care.

Bob Parke is a bioethicist in Toronto, ON with a keen interest in the everyday ethical issues of transitions and care planning. He has been involved in palliative care throughout his career and spent many years as a bioethicist at Humber River Hospital. Bob is involved in a provincial initiative to improve palliative care for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

We hope you can join us on **Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 10:30am** for this free, in-person presentation on palliative care and advanced care planning at **All Saints' Church**.

*Please note the venue is wheelchair accessible and parking is available onsite.*



## *Complications: Abortion's Impact on Women* The Handbook

*Complications* is the most comprehensive review of the global research on abortion, including over 600 studies on abortion's physical and emotional effects on women's health, relationships and society.

This fundamental 450+ page book is now available as an illustrated 48 page handbook, featuring summaries of all research findings and women's narratives.

Order at [deveber.org/book-store](http://deveber.org/book-store) for only \$15

## Echoes: Palliative Care Stories of Canada



*Echoes: Palliative Care Stories of Canada* is a unique collection of uplifting stories highlighting palliative care achievements from coast-to-coast.

The first six chapters of *Echoes* are now available online at [echoescanada.com](http://echoescanada.com) or through our website. Launched in September, these chapters champion genuine palliative-care triumphs in Quebec, British Columbia, Alberta, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

“

I don't think we convince people of our position by being morose, pessimistic, and negative about things.



Affirming life and promoting a culture of life is something that should make us very cheerful.

-Dr. Thomas Bouchard,  
*Echoes* contributor (Alberta)

”

The website features narratives with spotlights on patient experiences, insights from medical professionals, and new palliative care initiatives. Each people-first story is accompanied by regional statistics and a directory of local resources.

We hope that you enjoy the inspiring stories of *Echoes* and share them widely.

### *Is the Human Embryo a Person?*

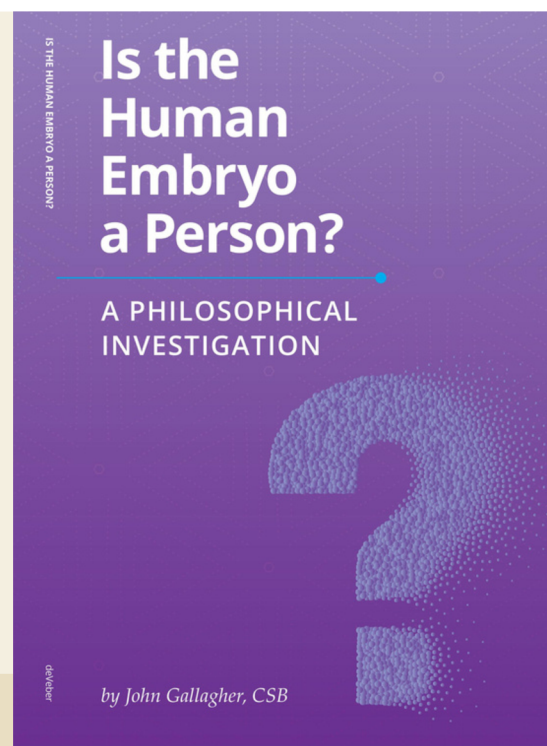
John Gallagher, CSB

Those focused on protecting both the well-being of women and the lives of the unborn act on a belief that the child in the womb is a human person. Advocates for abortion may challenge this position.

To deal fairly and convincingly with these challenges, author John Gallagher CSB, presents a thorough reconsideration of the issue.

*Is the Human Embryo a Person?* examines the notion of what it means to be a human person and the validity of these notions.

Order at [deveber.org/book-store](http://deveber.org/book-store) for only \$15





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Thank you for all you do to further research and discourse on today's human life issues.

“

What deVeber does is foundational for anyone working in life issues; indeed for society as a whole.

”

**Dr. Will Johnston,**  
Past President of Canadian Physicians  
for Life

## The deVeber Institute for Bioethics and Social Research



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The deVeber Institute for Bioethics and Social Research, originally known as the Human Life Research Institute, was founded in 1982 with a mission to research and publish studies for an informed social response to human life questions. Now, in our 42nd year, we have a reputation for scrupulous academic integrity and working to fill gaps in medical and social research.