

SISSELA BOK

August 2008

Senior Visiting Fellow, The Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies
9 Bow Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-3012

EDUCATION

Harvard University: Ph.D., Philosophy , 1970. Dissertation: "Voluntary Euthanasia."
George Washington University: M.A., Clinical Psychology (1958).
George Washington University: B.A. (1957).
Sorbonne, Université de Paris, 1954-5.

TEACHING

1989-92 Professor, Philosophy, Brandeis University.
1985-89 Associate Professor, Philosophy, Brandeis University.
1982-86 Lecturer, Core Curriculum, Harvard University.
1982-83 Lecturer, John F. Kennedy School of Government.
1975-82 Lecturer, Harvard-M.I.T. Health Sciences & Technology.
1974-75 Radcliffe Institute: Seminar on Medical Ethics.
1972-73 Lecturer, Simmons College.

BOOKS

Lying: Moral Choice in Public and Private Life (Pantheon Books: 1978; Vintage paperback editions, 1979, 1989, 1999).
Secrets: on the Ethics of Concealment and Revelation (Pantheon Books: 1982; Vintage paperback editions, 1984, 1989).
Alva: Ett kvinnoliv (Stockholm: Bonniers Förlag, 1987; paperback edition, 1988).
A Strategy for Peace: Human Values and the Threat of War (Pantheon Books: 1989; Vintage paperback edition, 1990).
Alva Myrdal: A Daughter's Memoir (Addison-Wesley: 1991; paperback ed., 1992).
Common Values (University of Missouri Press, 1995; paperback edition 2002).
Mayhem: Violence as Public Entertainment (Perseus, 1998; paperback ed., 1999).
Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide, with Gerald Dworkin and Ray Frey, Cambridge University Press, 1998).

BOOKS EDITED

- The Dilemmas of Euthanasia, eds., John Behnke and Sissela Bok (Doubleday & Company: 1975).
Ethics Teaching in Higher Education, eds., Daniel Callahan and Sissela Bok (Plenum Press: 1980).

PREFACES OR INTRODUCTIONS TO BOOKS:

- Gilles Dostaler, Diane Ethier, Laurent Lepage, eds., Gunnar Myrdal and His Works (Harvest House, 1992).
 Mohandas Gandhi, An Autobiography: The Story of My Experiments with Truth (Beacon, 1993).
 Gunnar Myrdal, An American Dilemma, 50th Anniversary Edition (Transaction Press, 1996).
 Henry Sidgwick, Practical Ethics (Oxford University Press, 1998).
 Stellan Andersson and Örjan Appelqvist, eds, The Essential Gunnar Myrdal, (The New Press, Winter 2004).

ARTICLES (Not included: brief editorials, reissues, case studies, book reviews. List available upon request.)

- "Redemption Through Art in Nabokov's *Invitation to a Beheading*," Critique, vol. XII, Summer 1971, pp. 110-120.
- "The Leading Edge of the Wedge," The Hastings Center Report, December 1971, pp.9-11.
- "Euthanasia and the Care of the Dying," BioScience, vol. 23, August 1973, pp. 461-466.
- "Ethical Problems of Abortion," Hastings Studies, 2, Jan. 1974, pp. 33-52.
- "Paternalism in the Care of the Chronically Ill and the Aged," Health Care and Changing Values (National Academy of Sciences, 1974), pp. 304-13.
- "The Ethics of Giving Placebos," Scientific American, Vol. 231, No. 5, November 1974, pp. 17-23.
- "Fetal Research and the Value of Life," U.S. National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects, in Appendix: Research on the Fetus, February 1975. (Washington, D.C., Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.)
- "Paternalistic Deception in Medicine and Rational Choice: the Use of Placebos," in Max Black, ed., Problems of Choice and Decision (Ithaca, New York: 1975).

"Who Shall Count as a Human Being? A Dangerous Question in the Abortion Discussion," Abortion: Pro and Con, (Schenckman Publishing Company, 1975), pp. 91-105.

"Personal Directions for Care at the End of Life," The New England Journal of Medicine, 295, August 12, 1976, pp.367-369.

"The Physician as Moral Agent," Philosophical Medical Ethics, eds. S. Spicker and T. Englehart (Reidel Publishing Company, 1977), pp. 230-234.

"The Tools of Bioethics," Ethics in Medicine, (1st edition), eds., Stanley Joel Reiser, Arthur J. Dyck, William J. Curran (M.I.T. Press, 1977), pp. 137-141.

"Freedom and Risk," Daedalus, 107, Spring 1978, pp. 115-127.

"Ethics of Death and Dying: A Systematic Perspective," and "Truth-telling: Ethical Aspects," in Encyclopedia of Bioethics (Macmillan, 1979), pp. 268-278; 1682-1688.

"Teaching Applied Ethics," Radcliffe Quarterly, June 1979, with Daniel Callahan , pp. 30-33.

"The Role of Applied Ethics in Learning," Change, Sept. 1979, with Daniel Callahan, pp. 23-27.

"The Self Deceived," Social Science INFORMATION sur les sciences sociales, 6, 1980, pp. 923-933.

"Whistleblowing and Professional Responsibilities," in Ethics Teaching in Higher Education, eds., Daniel Callahan and Sissela Bok (Plenum Press: 1980), pp. 277-295.

"On Lying," Berkshire Review, 15, 1980, pp.7-14.

"The Relevance of Moral Philosophy to Medicine," in Herbert P. Gleason, ed., Getting Better (Oelgeschlager, Gunn, & Hain, Publishers, Inc. 1981).

"Blowing the Whistle," in Joel Fleishman, Lance Liebman, Mark Moore, eds. Public Duties: The Moral Obligations of Government Officials (Harvard University Press, 1981), pp. 204-221.

"Secrecy and Openness in Science: Ethical Considerations," Science, Technology, & Human Values, 7, Winter 1982, pp. 32-41.

"The Contested Self-Portrait of Madame d'Epinay," Ploughshares, X, Summer 1984, pp. 166-78.

"Secrecy and Deception: Implications for the Military," Naval War College Review, XXXVIII, March-April 1985, pp. 73-80.

"Distrust, Secrecy, and the Arms Race," Ethics 95, April 1985, pp.712-727.

"Common Insecurity," Policies for Common Security, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, ed.(London: Taylor & Francis) 1985 pp. 19-29.

"Montaigne Today," Brandeis Review, 5, Winter 1986, pp. 17-20.

"Toward a Practical Ethic of Nonviolence," Speaking of Faith, eds. Diana L. Eck and Devaki Jain, (New Delhi: Kali for Women, 1986) pp. 234-239.

"On Opening Human Experimentation to Moral Debate," Hastings Center Report, October 1986, pp. 10-12.

"Alva Myrdal," The Yale Review, Spring 1987, Vol. 76, pp. 300-308.

"Partisanship," The World , November 1987, Vol 1, pp. 4-7.

"Kant on the Maxim 'Do What is Right Though the World Should Perish'," Argumentation, Vol. II, February 1988, pp. 7-25.

"Early Advocates of Lasting World Peace: Utopians or Realists?," Ethics and International Affairs, Vol. 4, 1990, pp. 145-162.

"Can Lawyers Be Trusted?," University of Pennsylvania Law Review, Vol. 138, January 1990, pp. 913-933.

"Postface," Gunnar Myrdal et son oeuvre, eds. Gilles Dostaler, Diane Ethier, Laurent Lepage, (Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1990), pp. 197-202.

"Att skriva bok och föda barn," ("To Write Books and Have Children"), in Kreativitet och flow, George Klein, ed. (Stockholm: Brombergs Bokförlag, 1990), pp. 253-260.

"School for Scandal," AGNI, 1990, 31/32, pp. 124-131.

"The Hidden Costs of Lying," WORLD LINK, 4, Nov/Dec. 1991, pp. 70-71

"Deceit," Encyclopedia of Ethics, (New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1992), pp. 242-246.

"Comment on T. M. Scanlon, "Value, Desire and Quality of Life," in Martha Nussbaum and Amartya Sen, eds., The Quality of Life (Oxford University Press, 1993), vol. I, pp. 201-207.

"Informed Consent in Tests of Patient Reliability," Journal of the American Medical Association, 267, Feb. 26, 1992, pp. 1118-1119.

"The Search for a Shared Ethics," Common Knowledge, 1, Winter 1992, pp. 2-25; "Three Answers [to questions by Amartya Sen]," Ibid, pp. 27-29.

"Impaired Physicians: What should Patients Know?," Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics, 1993, 2, pp. 331-340.

"What Basis for Morality? A Minimalist Approach," The Monist, 1993, 76, pp. 349-359.

"Television Violence, Children, and the Press: Eight Rationales Inhibiting Public Policy Debate," The Joan Shorenstein Barone Center, Discussion Paper D-16, April 1994.

"Population and Ethics: Expanding the Moral Space," in Gita Sen, Adrienne Germain, Lincoln Chen, eds., Population Policies Reconsidered: Health, Empowerment, and Rights (Harvard Series on Population and International Health, 1995), pp. 1-12.

"Complex Humanitarian Emergencies: Moral Quandaries," Medicine and Global Survival, 1, Dec. 1994, pp. 220-221.

"Introduction," Daedalus, Gunnar Myrdal's An American Dilemma Revisited, Winter 1995, 124, pp. 1-13.

"Shading the Truth in Seeking Informed Consent for Research Purposes," Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, 5, March 1995, pp. 1-17.

"Dirty Hands," "Golden Rule," and "Self-Deception," entries in Oxford Companion to Philosophy ed. Ted Honderich (Oxford University Press, 1995), pp. 202, 321, 818-19.

"From Part to Whole," in Joshua Cohen, ed, For Love of Country (Boston: Beacon Press, 1996), pp. 38-44.

"Easeful Death: From Keats to Kevorkian," Harvard Medical School Alumni Bull. 20, Winter 1997, pp. 16-20.

"Censorship and Media Violence," 95, Michigan Law Review, May 1997, pp. 2160-2166.

"Lifeboat Ethics," in Leroy S. Rouser, ed., Is There a Human Nature? (Notre Dame University Press, 1997), pp. 193-207.

"Truthfulness," Encyclopedia of Philosophy (London: Routledge, 1998), pp. 480-485.

"The New Ethical Boundaries," in Jennifer Leaning, Susan M. Briggs, and Lincoln C. Chen, Humanitarian Crises (Harvard University Press, 1999), pp. 179-193.

“The ‘Moral Equivalent of War’,” in Maxwell Bruce and Tom Milne, Ending War: The Force of Reason: (London: Macmillan Press, 1999), pp. 125-31.

“Violence, Free Speech, and the Media,” in Perspectives on Crime and Justice: 1998-1999 Lecture Series, National Institute of Justice, Volume III, November 1999, pp. 51-72.

“Henry Sidgwick’s Practical Ethics,” Utilitas, Volume 12, No. 3, November 2000, pp. 361-78.

“Truthfulness and Deceit in Public Life” (Cedar City, Utah: Grace A. Tanner Center for Human Values, 2000).

“Autobiography as Moral Battleground,” in Daniel L. Schacter and Elaine Scarry, eds., Memory, Brain, and Belief (Cambridge, Massachusetts, Harvard University Press, 2000), pp. 307-324.

“Ethical Issues in Use of Placebo in Medical Practice and Clinical Trials,” in Harry Guess, Arthur Kleinman, et al., The Science of the Placebo: Toward an Interdisciplinary Research Agenda (British Medical Journal Books, 2002), pp. 53-74.

“Rethinking Common Values,” in Ken Booth and Tim Dunne, eds, Worlds in Collision: Terror and the Future of Global Order (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2002).

“The Pursuits of Happiness,” Alumni Bulletin, Harvard University Extension School, Vol. 37, Fall 2003, pp. 3-11.

“Simone Weil and Iris Murdoch: The Possibility of Dialogue,” Gender Studies, Fall 2005, pp. 71-78.

“No One To Receive It? Simone Weil’s Unforeseen Legacy,” Common Values, Spring 2006, 252-260.

“The Meaning of Peace: Remarks at SIPRI’s 40th,” in SIPRI Anniversary Book (Stockholm: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, 2006).

“WHO Definition of Health: Rethinking the,” in H. K. Heggenhougen and S. R. Quah, eds., International Encyclopedia of Public Health (Amsterdam: Elsevier, 2008), vol. 6, pp. 590-597.

“The Burden of Deceit in Public Life,” forthcoming, 2009, in Paul Escholtz et al., eds. Language Awareness, 10th Edition (Bedford/St. Martin: 2009).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2007- Member, Steering Committee, Harvard University Program on Health and Ethics.

- 2001- Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Encyclopedia of Public Health.
- 2000- Fellow, American Academy of Political and Social Science.
- 2000-2 Member, Academic Advisory Council of the National Campaign Against Youth Violence.
- 1999- Member, Editorial Board, Bulletin of the World Health Organization.
- 1998-2001 Member, Committee for International Cooperation, American Philosophical Association.
- 1998-2006 Corresponding Editor, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice.
- 1995-8 Member, Executive Board, PEN New England.
- 1994-7 Member, Board of Trustees, Hastings Center.
- 1993 Fellow, spring term, Joan Shorenstein Barone Center for Press, Politics and Public Policy, Harvard University.
- 1993- Senior Visiting Fellow, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies.
- 1992-4 Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Encyclopedia of Bioethics.
- 1991-2 Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences.
- 1991- Member, Editorial Board, Common Knowledge.
- 1991- 2003 Member Advisory Council, The Institute for Global Ethics.
- 1990-6 Member, Advisory Board, Contention: A Journal of Debates in Society, Culture, and Science.
- 1990-9 Member, Executive Committee, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.
- 1989 Member, American Philosophical Association and Soviet Academy of Sciences exchange on nuclear weapons policy.
- 1988-97 Member, Pulitzer Prize Board.
- 1986-91 Member, Advisory Board, Cultural Survival.

- 1986- Member, Advisory Board, Institute for Philosophy and Religion, Boston University.
- 1986-91 Member, Board of Consulting Editors, Encyclopedia of Ethics.
- 1986-89 Member, Committee on Philosophy and Medicine, American Philosophical Association.
- 1986-89 Member, Melcher Book Award Committee.
- 1985-89 Member, Nominating Board, The Philosopher's Annual.
- 1980-85 Member, Editorial Board, Ethics, An International Journal of Social Political, and Legal Philosophy.
- 1980- Member, Editorial Board, Criminal Justice Ethics.
- 1980-97 Contributing Editor, Literature and Medicine.
- 1980-83 Co-director (with Daniel Callahan) of a project on Applied and Professional Ethics, sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation.
- 1977-80 Member, Ethics Advisory Board, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
- 1977-79 Co-Director (with Daniel Callahan) of a project on "The Teaching of Ethics" for the Carnegie Corporation.
- 1974-78 Member, Advisory Board, Encyclopedia of Bioethics.
- 1974-77 Member, Committee on Clinical Investigation, Children's Hospital, Boston.
- 1974- 2002 Fellow (Member of the Board of Directors, 1976-84, 94-97), Hastings Institute of Society, Ethics and the Life Sciences.
- 1973-74 Member, Massachusetts Task force on Psychosurgery.
- 1973-74 Member, Committee on Human Studies, Boston City Hospital.
- 1972-73 Fellow, Interfaculty Program in Medical Ethics, Harvard University.
- 1971-77 Member, Board of Trustees, The Population Council.

HONORS

- 1977 Honorary Phi Beta Kappa.
- 1978 The George Orwell Award for Lying: Moral Choice in Public and Private Life.
- 1978 Melcher Book Award, for Lying.
- 1985 Abram L. Sachar Silver Medallion, The Brandeis University National Women's Committee.
- 1985 Honorary LLD Degree, Mount Holyoke College.
- 1986 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, George Washington University.
- 1988 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Clark University.
- 1991 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, U. Of Massachusetts at Boston.
- 1992 Honorary LLD Degree, Georgetown University.
- 1992 Melcher Book Award, for Alva Myrdal: A Daughter's Memoir.
- 1993 Radcliffe Society Graduate Society Medal.
- 1995 Barnard College Medal of Distinction.
- 1996 Henry Ward Beecher Award, The Hastings Center.
- 1998 Centennial Medal, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University.
- 2002 St. Botolph Foundation Award for Distinction in Literature.
- 2006 2006 Commonwealth Humanities Lecturer.
- 2007 Honorary Degree, American College of Greece