

WOODSTOCK FORUM

VALUES INSIDE THE ISSUES:

RELIGIOUS VOICES ON HEALTH CARE REFORM

THE PURPOSE

Although medical technology is advancing at an astounding pace, health care in the United States is both uneven and unequal. At the same time, there is little understanding of the essential role religion plays in health care decisions. When patients interact with the health care system, they are significantly influenced by their religious values, as are health care workers themselves. What can religious voices bring to the current debates about health care reform? The speakers will share the moral and ethical framework that their respective faith traditions bring to the public policy issues raised by the health care reform debate.

THE SPONSORS

- Woodstock Theological Center
- O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law
- Program on Church and Interreligious Dialogue
Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs
- Georgetown University Medical Center

THE MODERATOR

John Langan, S.J., will moderate the discussion.

THE PANELISTS

Edmund D. Pellegrino, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Medical Ethics,
Georgetown University

Rabbi David Saperstein, Esq., Director and Counsel, Religious Action Center of Reform
Judaism

Sheik N. Hassan, M.D., F.C.C.P., Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Associate
Professor of Medicine, Howard University College of Medicine

THE QUESTIONS

- What role should religious belief play in health care policy? To what extent do religious perspectives address policy issues such as whether market forces drive health care decisions or to what extent should health care be treated as a public good?
- What religious assumptions do you bring to the health care debate? What are their sources in sacred texts and traditions?
- Do individuals have a right to health care? Does society have an obligation to provide health care for all? What values come into play out of your religious tradition?

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2008, 7:30 PM

Georgetown University Law Center
Gewirz Student Center, 12th Floor
120 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

For detailed directions, visit <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/directions>
Questions? Call Nancy Swartz, 202-687-7737