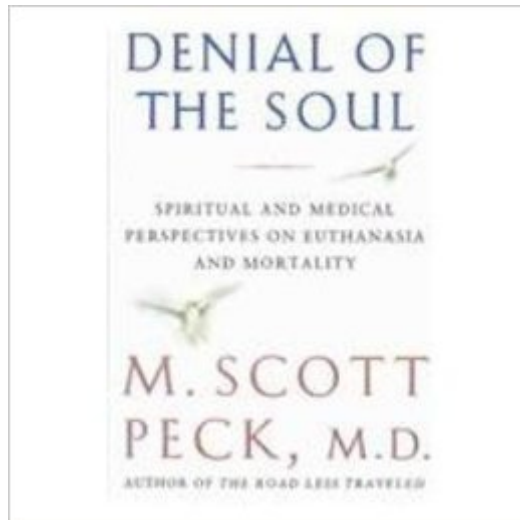


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Denial Of The Soul: Spiritual And Medical Perspectives On Euthanasia And Mortality



Synopsis

Explores the issue of euthanasia & the right to die. Poses the questions we should all ask ourselves & helps us determine the spiritual lessons that dying is meant to teach us. The Hippocratic Oath decrees that physicians prolong life & relieve suffering. However, technological advancements have blurred the lines between these issues. He rails against the inadequate treatment of physical pain & gives sensible medical & spiritual perspectives on chronic & terminal emotional & physical pain. Discusses the deeper meanings of life, death, suicide, & euthanasia. Asks whether we have the right to kill ourselves even though we have the power.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

There's a reason Dr. Peck is one of my favorite authors, and this book once more demonstrates why. Denial of the Soul is a brave and important book that carefully and objectively explores the entire issue of euthanasia from both a medical and spiritual standpoint. Frequently touching and always well reasoned, once again he has produced a masterpiece that should give the thoughtful reader plenty to digest as he or she struggles to decide for themselves how they feel about the idea of terminating a human life-especially their own. This is much more than simply a book about the pros and cons of "pulling the plug" on the terminally ill, but explores a whole range of questions regarding hospice care, suicide and mercy killing, doctor assisted euthanasia, pain management, and quality of life issues (his chapter on pain management alone should be required reading for every first year medical student and nurse trainee.) His spiritual perspective on the issue-which he covers in some depth in the second half of the book-is more subjective and problematic, but he

does manage to successfully bring God into the debate, for which I consider him among the bravest of medical professionals. His no-nonsense approach and personal antidotes make this one of those books you'll be thinking about long after you've read the last words. As is true of all of Peck's books, however, I found myself enthusiastically agreeing with 95% of everything he wrote and vehemently disagreeing with the remaining 5%. He approaches the spiritual aspect of the debate from a purely liberal Christian perspective (and the political elements of it from a similar perspective) and so makes some statements that I couldn't help but challenge.

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