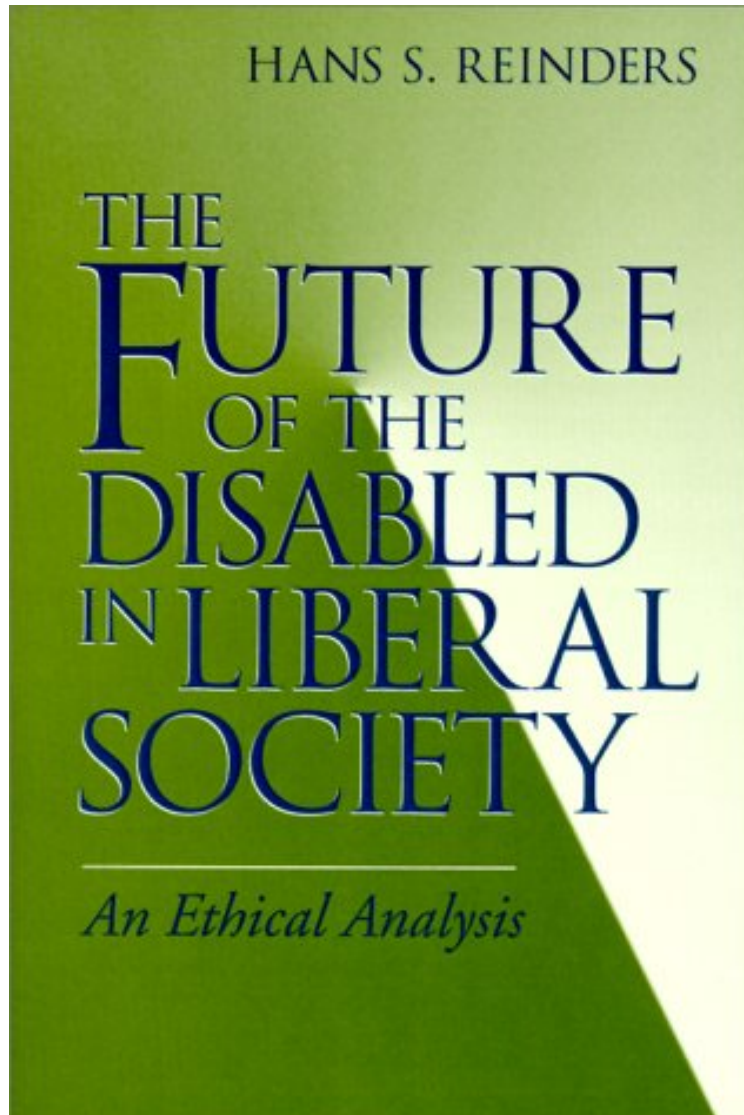


[Download pdf ebook] The Future Of Disabled Liberal Society: An Ethical Analysis (REVISIONS)

The Future Of Disabled Liberal Society: An Ethical Analysis (REVISIONS)

Hans S. Reinders

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Hans S. Reinders : The Future Of Disabled Liberal Society: An Ethical Analysis (REVISIONS) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Future Of Disabled Liberal Society: An Ethical Analysis (REVISIONS):

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. a not politically-correct analysisBy Erik LeipoldtDutch professor of Philosophy's Hans Reinders' analysis is refreshing in a subject area, i.e. disability, where too often post-modernism is

accepted as a workable context where the main aim is to achieve rights and choices for people with disabilities. Reinders shows how liberal society (and yes he discusses what that is) is limited in achieving advances for people with developmental disability because of its lack of a deep framework of morality. He shows this group as one that is particularly under threat from developments in genetics. As Reinders convincingly argues the difficulties for liberal society in safeguarding this vulnerable group are severely curtailed by its inability to resolve the inherent paradox between prevention of conditions seen as suffering and inclusion of people with disabilities as per Wolfensberger's normalisation and social role valorization theories. Where individual people make up their own meanings for their lives how do people without the ability to do so fare? They get devalued with risks of attendant negative implications, notably in developments in genetics. Reinders suggests that society is in need of a deep morality which may be found in the experiences and beliefs of caring families who have members with developmental disability. He uses Kenzaburo Oe's novel "A personal matter" with great impact in arguing for the inherent value of the lives of people with developmental disability, realised when we do dive deep into our own prejudices, preconceptions and fears. Reinders arguments fit well with Alasdair MacIntyre's (Dependent Rational Animals) conception of the nature of the human condition as consisting of acknowledged dependency and vulnerability in balance with autonomy for the flourishing of people to occur. Read Reinders and MacIntyre against the background of David Loye's myth-breaking "Darwin's lost theory of love" and you may strengthen your hopes about a more human/planet sustaining paradigm rising through the surface of our present day postmodern soup. Reinders is not an easy read but his book, rich in its challenges to dominant societal assumptions, deserves to be widely read, in and outside of the disability area of interest. His arguments are clear, his language crisp. His is an important contribution to a quest for moral coherency in our confused times. As Reinders cleverly uses the lenses of genetics and developmental disability, inescapably the reader comes to the conclusion that what is true for vulnerable people with developmental disabilities is true for all of us. This book should feature in the required reading lists for disability- ,human service and ethical/philosophy studies. Highly recommended.

The Future of the Disabled in Liberal Society questions developments in human genetic research from the perspective of persons with mental disabilities and their families. Hans S. Reinders argues that when we use terms such as disease and defect to describe conditions that genetic engineering might well eliminate, we may also be assuming that disabled lives are deplorable and horrific. Reinders points out that the possibility of preventing disabled lives is at odds with our commitments to the full inclusion of disabled citizens in society. The tension between these different perspectives is of concern to all of us as genetic testing procedures proliferate. Reinders warns that preventative uses of human genetics might even become a threat to the social security and welfare benefits that help support disabled persons and their families.

In The Future of the Disabled in Liberal Society, [Reinders] subtly explores how genetic--testing technologies--ones that are already widely used and others that are just around the corner--adversely affect the standing of the disabled in liberal states. A professor of ethics, Reinders has written an intellectually challenging work of philosophy and social policy. . . . [He] has done a great service by demonstrating how even a seemingly benign aspect of the high-tech revolution, genetic testing, will have unintended consequences none of us can greet with equanimity. Policy