



Death, Society, and the Human Experience (9th Edition)

By Robert J. Kastenbaum

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Death, Society, and the Human Experience (9th Edition) By Robert J. Kastenbaum

This landmark text in death education draws on contributions from the social and behavioral sciences as well as the humanities, such as history, religion, philosophy, literature, and the arts, to provide thorough coverage of understanding death and the dying process. The text focuses on both individual and societal attitudes and how they influence both how and when we die and how we live and deal with the knowledge of death and loss. Robert Kastenbaum is a renowned scholar in the field who developed one of the world's first death education courses and introduced the first text for this market.

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Death, Society, and the Human Experience (9th Edition) By Robert J. Kastenbaum Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1177721 in Books
- Published on: 2006-04-21
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.08" h x 1.16" w x 7.56" l, 2.03 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 560 pages

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

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New to this edition:

- Terri Schiavo's long suspension between life and death, as seen from biomedical, political, religious, and social science perspectives.
- Hurricane Katrina and how the United States dealt with issues relating to the deaths, alerting survivors, and more.
- The catastrophic tsunami of December 26, 2004 and its impact on society.
- A new section on 20th century genocide in Cambodia, Germany, Russia, India, China, Rwanda, Kosovo, and Turkey has been added to Ch. 8.
- Caregiver burnout and its prevention.
- Evaluation of grief counseling.
- The "green" funeral.
- Islamic afterlife beliefs and their relationship to terrorism.
- Concepts of heavens and hell are given expanded attention.
- New research on the role of imaginary companions adds to the understanding of how children interpret death.
- The "good death" in utopian societies.
- The events of September 11, 2001, which were the focus of Ch. 1 in the eighth edition, have been integrated within the overall text.

About the Author

Bob Kastenbaum's exploits as skating messenger apparently qualified him to become editor of two community newspapers, an eccentric career trajectory that somehow led to a graduate scholarship in philosophy and a Ph.D. in psychology at the University of Southern California (1959). He was most interested in fields of psychological study that barely existed at the time: lifespan development and aging, time perspective, creativity, and death and dying. Kastenbaum became part of an emerging cadre that overcame the prevailing neglect and resistance to these issues. He worked in varied settings as clinician, researcher, activist, hospital administrator, educator, and author. The innovative programs he introduced into a geriatric hospital and his article, "The Reluctant Therapist" have been credited with preparing the way for increased attention to the needs and potentials of vulnerable elders and terminally ill people. With Dick Kalish, he founded *Omega*, the first peer-reviewed journal focused on death-related issues. Kastenbaum taught the first regularly-scheduled university course on death and dying and came up with the first textbook

(*Death, Society, & Human Experience*, 1977). He also established the first university-based educational and research center on death and dying (Wayne State University, 1966). His other books include *The Psychology of Death* (1972, 1990, 2000); *Dorian, Graying: Is Youth the Only Thing Worth Having?* (1995), and *On Our Way. The Final Passage Through Life and Death* (2004). He has also served as editor of the *Macmillan Encyclopedia of Death and Dying*, (2004) and two previous encyclopedias. In the public sphere he has served as a co-founder of The National Caucus on Black Aging, consultant to the United States Senate Special Subcommittee on Aging, and participant in developing the Veterans Administration's geriatric research and educational centers, and the landmark National Hospice Demonstration Project. Kastenbaum lives in Tempe, Arizona with Bunny (wife), Angel (The Incredible Leaping Dog), enhanced by Pumpkin and Snowflake in the cat department. Along with his continuing research interests, Kastenbaum has been writing book and verse for musicals and operas. He notes that nobody has died in the two most recently premiered operas (*Closing Time*; *American Gothic*, music by Kenneth LaFave), but cannot make any such promises about the next opera.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tommie Payton:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? May be reading a book could be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the guide untitled *Death, Society, and the Human Experience* (9th Edition) can be fine book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Nelson Wyatt:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this *Death, Society, and the Human Experience* (9th Edition) book written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who all read the book. Written within good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still skepticism *Death, Society, and the Human Experience* (9th Edition) as good book not merely by the cover but also by content. This is one book that can break don't evaluate book by its include, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

Katherine Clark:

In this particular era which is the greater individual or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to experience a look at some books. On the list of books in the top record in your reading list is actually *Death, Society, and the Human Experience* (9th Edition). This book that is certainly qualified as *The Hungry Inclines* can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking right up and review this publication you can get many advantages.

Luther Keller:

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