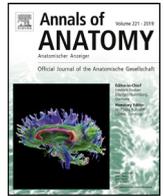




ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Annals of Anatomy

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aaan

BOOK REVIEW

G. Duttge, C. Viebahn (Eds.), *Würde und Selbstbestimmung über den Tod hinaus, Göttinger Schriften zum Medizinrecht*, vol. 22 Universitätsverlag Göttingen, Göttingen (2017), <http://dx.doi.org/10.17875/gup2017-1046>

This multi-authored volume contains contributions to the 2nd Göttingen Symposium on Medical Law, held in Göttingen in June 2016. The symposium focused on legal, ethical and technical issues that concern the usage of human corpses and remains. The ten chapters in the proceedings deal with topics ranging from the dignified and ethical handling of dead bodies, including abortions and stillborn children, to body donation and the dissection of corpses for pathological and anatomical purposes. The authors are experts in ethics (D. Preuß, A. K. Weilert), law (G. Duttge, B. Madea, M. Thier), history of medicine (H. Schott), and/or anatomy (A. Schmiedl, C. Viebahn, A. Winkelmann).

I highly recommend this handy volume to anatomists. The booklet contains concise and well-written descriptions of most ethical and legal issues that we encounter in our anatomical institutes.

In the 21st century, the dignity and our respect towards human corpses is grounded in the notion that individuals can determine their own fate after death, in the sense that personal rights are extended postmortally. Although this notion seems self-evident to most of us in principle, it is not always obvious how to implement it in our daily anatomical routine. As a useful guide, the booklet describes the relevant ethical and legal standards and provides practical recommendations. Moreover, novices and experienced anatomists alike will find the up-to-date chapters on body fixation by A. Schmiedl and on international regulations for body donation by A. Winkelmann highly informative and interesting.

The volume, which is written in German, can be purchased as a paper-back edition or downloaded free of charge at the following website: <https://www.univerlag.uni-goettingen.de/handle/3/isbn-978-3-86395-323-2>.

Christoph Redies
Institute of Anatomy I, Jena University Hospital,
Teichgraben 7, D-07743 Jena, Germany
E-mail address: christoph.redies@med.uni-jena.de