

# › Respecting Autonomy in Bioethics: Do We Need a Thicker Concept of Autonomy?

Lecture by Professor James F. Childress, Ph.D. (Virginia)

October 18, 2012 | 6.00 p.m.

## › A Thicker Concept of Autonomy?

Current controversies in bioethics—for example, about consent to and refusal of medical procedures and participation in research—invite us to explore whether a thick concept of autonomy could enable better resolution of conflicts. After considering what would be gained and lost by adoption of some thicker concepts of autonomy being proposed, this lecture will argue that, for the most part, thinner conceptions, if properly understood, are generally adequate.

James F. Childress is the John Allen Hollingsworth Professor of Ethics and Professor of Medical Education at the University of Virginia. Childress is the author of numerous articles and several books in ethics, especially biomedical and political ethics. His books include *Principles of Biomedical Ethics* (with Tom L. Beauchamp), *Priorities in Biomedical Ethics; Who Should Decide? Paternalism in Health Care*; and *Practical Reasoning in Bioethics*. James F. Childress served on several bioethical committees including the presidentially appointed National Bioethics Advisory Commission. In 2011 he was a fellow of the Centre for Advanced Study in Bioethics at the University of Münster.

## › Venue

Erdrostenhof  
Salzstrasse 38 · 48143 Münster · Germany

## › Organisation



Johann S. Ach, Thomas Gutmann, Michael Quante, Bettina Schöne-Seifert  
Centre for Advanced Study in Bioethics, University of Münster

This public lecture is part of the conference „Thick (Concepts of) Autonomy?“.  
There will be a reception in the foyer of the Erdrostenhof after the lecture.

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