

## **REFLECTIONS FROM LAST SEMINAR**

800 SENIOR STUDENTS FROM 16 SCHOOLS ATTENDED THE 2003 SENIOR STUDENTS SEMINAR AT WESTMINSTER SCHOOL. THE FOLLOWING QUOTES WERE JUST SOME OF THE NUMEROUS POSITIVE RESPONSES RECEIVED.

*"THANKS VERY MUCH TO WESTMINSTER. YES MORE EVENTS SUCH AS THESE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IN ADELAIDE SECONDARY SCHOOLS."* (YEAR 12 STUDENT)

*"I AM NOT RELIGIOUS BUT I DID FIND THIS INTERESTING."* (YEAR 11 STUDENT)

*"IT WAS A VERY REWARDING EXPERIENCE AND I WILL NEVER FORGET IT!"* (YEAR 12 STUDENT)

*"VERY GOOD SPEAKER. OPENED UP MY MIND. THANKS"* (YEAR 11 STUDENT)

*"THANK YOU, THIS WAS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE DAYS I HAVE SPENT. IT REALLY INCREASED MY UNDERSTANDING OF ISSUES, AND HELPED ME TO DEVELOP AND UNDERSTAND MY OPINIONS"* (YEAR 12 STUDENT)

*"WICKED"* (YEAR 12 STUDENT)

*"VERY MOTIVATING AND FULFILLING SEMINAR WHICH I WILL NEVER FORGET."* (YEAR 11 STUDENT)

*"THIS WAS BRILLIANT AND REALLY MIND OPENING. THANKS"* (YEAR 12 STUDENT)

*The Dialogue Australasia Network (DAN) consists of over 200 school communities or individuals promoting a broad-based academic approach to values and religious education called the Five Strand approach.*

*The Dialogue Journal is produced twice a year and is intended to be of particular use to secondary school Religious Education teachers and their Senior Students. The journal covers a variety of topics: The Philosophy of Religion, Ethics, Biblical Studies, Theology, Church History and World Religions. Writers from various Christian traditions and other faiths are invited to contribute.*

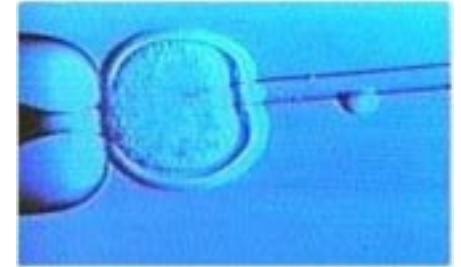
*Membership and details about the Network can be found at the website:*

**[www.dialogueaustralasia.org](http://www.dialogueaustralasia.org)**

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SENIOR STUDENT  
SEMINAR

## **ETHICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY EUTHANASIA, GENETIC ENGINEERING, CRIME & PUNISHMENT**



**Dr Peter Vardy presents a  
special half-day student  
seminar at  
St Peter's College**

Wednesday 4th August 2004

St Peter's College, Hackney Rd Hackney

9:30am until 1 pm



## SEMINAR CONTENT

**EUTHANASIA.** WHEN A FAVOURITE PET IS OLD AND IN PAIN, MANY PEOPLE FEEL THAT IT IS MORALLY RIGHT TO PUT IT OUT OF ITS MISERY. DOES THE SAME APPLY IF A HUMAN BEING WISHES TO BRING THEIR LIFE TO AN END BECAUSE THEY HAVE MADE THEIR PEACE WITH THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND THEY ARE IN THE FINAL STAGES OF A TERMINAL ILLNESS? THIS SESSION WILL EXPLORE THE VARIOUS APPROACHES TO EUTHANASIA INCLUDING THE CATHOLIC DECLARATION ON EUTHANASIA WHICH HOLDS LIFE AS ABSOLUTELY SACRED AND ALTERNATIVE POSITIONS INCLUDING PROPORTIONALISM, SITUATION ETHICS AND UTILITARIANISM. THE DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN ACTS OF OMISSION AND COMMISSION AND BETWEEN DIRECT AND INDIRECT KILLING (INCLUDING THE PRINCIPLE OF DOUBLE EFFECT) WILL BE EXPLAINED.

**CRIME AND PUNISHMENT.** WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF PUNISHING CRIMINALS? IS IT TO REFORM THOSE WHO CARRY OUT CRIMES, TO SAFEGUARD THE COMMUNITY, TO PUNISH THE PERPETRATORS OR ALL OF THESE? THE CONSEQUENCES OF DIFFERENT ETHICAL APPROACHES TO PUNISHMENT WILL BE EXPLAINED AND ALTERNATIVES EXPLORED AS WELL AS THE ISSUE OF WHEN IT MAY BE MORALLY RIGHT TO DISOBEY THE LAW.

**GENETIC ENGINEERING OF ANIMALS.** THE PACE OF CHANGE IN GENETIC ENGINEERING IS ACCELERATING ALL THE TIME AND THE ETHICAL ISSUES ARE NOT ALWAYS SUFFICIENTLY CONSIDERED. THIS SESSION WILL EXPLORE THE MORAL DILEMMAS THAT ARISE INCLUDING THE GENETIC ENGINEERING OF MICE TO PRODUCE CANCERS; THE ENGINEERING OF ANIMALS FOR GREATER PRODUCTIVITY AND GENETIC ALTERING RACEHORSES TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE.

**Cost: \$7 per student (supervising teachers are free)**  
**Students from DAN schools \$6 per student.**

## DR PETER VARDY



Vice-Principal of Heythrop College,  
University of London

**Peter is the author of the best selling 'Puzzle' series of books on God, Evil, Ethics, Sex and the Gospels. He is the joint author, with Julie Arliss of 'The Thinkers Guide to Evil' and 'The Thinkers Guide to God' to be published shortly in Australia. He has been a consultant in Religious and Values education for Geelong and Melbourne Grammar schools and was one of the founding editors of Dialogue Australia.**

## RESPONSE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

How many students are you bringing? \_\_\_\_\_

How many staff are you bringing? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

*RSVP by Friday 2/7/04 to Matthew Wills  
(see below)*

### Dialogue Australasia Network

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Cut and post or fax whole page to 8276 0277

