

## Vardit Ravitsky

Department of Clinical Bioethics

and

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### Education

Institution and Degree	Years
PhD, Bar-Ilan University, Israel Department of Philosophy, Graduate Program in Bioethics Dissertation topic: Genetic Interventions and the Shaping of Human Identity	1998-2003
M.A., University of New Mexico, USA Philosophy, Specialization in Bioethics (with distinction) Thesis topic: The Right to Procreate in the Age of Technologically Assisted Reproduction	1992-1996
B.A., Sorbonne University, Paris, France Philosophy (with honors)	1988-1991

### Awards

Awards	Date
Fulbright Grant for Post Doctoral Scholars (declined for technical reasons)	2003-2004
Shalem Center Fellowship	2000-2003
Bar-Ilan University's Doctoral Fellowship of Excellence Program	1999-2002
Doctorate Fellowship of Bar-Ilan University	1998

## Teaching and Research Experience

Position	Date
Organizer of Clinical Seminar in Bioethics, Bar-Ilan University in collaboration with the Unit for Health Rights and Ethics, Gertner Institute	2002-2003
Researcher - Unit for Health Rights and Ethics, Gertner Institute for Health Policy Research, Tel Hashomer 52621, Israel	2001-2003
Lecturer on Jewish history and identity, to officers in the Israeli army	1998-2003
Lecturer, Bar-Ilan University: 1. "Texts in modern philosophy" 2. "Bioethics: ethical dilemmas in end of life treatment" (Nominated "distinguished lecturer" according to students' survey – graded 4.9 out of 5)	1999-2000
Teaching assistant, Honors Seminar "Ethics, Medicine and Law", University of New Mexico	1994-1995
Hebrew teacher, School for Foreign Students, Hebrew University, Jerusalem	1991, 1995
Educational officer in the Israeli army: principal of an army high school, professionally supervising a team of 15 teachers	1985-1987

## Academic Conferences

Topic of Presentation	Event	Date
Reproductive Technology in Israel: Ethical and Cultural Aspects	Annual meeting: <u>American Society for Bioethics and Humanities</u> . Montreal, Canada	October 2003
Co-organizer and speaker: Conference on <u>Public Discourse on Agri-Biotech and Genetically Modified Food in Israel</u>	Conference organized by The Heschel Center for environmental Learning and Leadership, in partnership with the Porter Center for Environmental Studies, Tel Aviv University	May 2003
Embryonic Stem Cell Research: Ethical Aspects and Jewish Perspectives	Invited Speaker: <u>Cloning in Biomedical Research and Reproduction: Scientific Aspects – Ethical, Legal and Social Limits</u> . Organized by the DRZE (German Reference Center for Ethics in the Life Sciences). Berlin, Germany	May 2003
Public Funding of IVF in Israel: Cultural and Ethical Aspects	Sponsored participant: Mount Sinai-Oxford Consortium, <u>Conference on Bioethics</u> . Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York	April 2003
Poster Presentation: "The Treatment-Enhancement Distinction: A Bioethical	Sponsored participant: German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific	July 2002

Perspective"	Research & Development, The 22nd Meeting on <u>Challenges in Genomic Research: Neurodegenerative Diseases, Stem-Cells, Bioethics</u> . Heidelberg, Germany	
	Sponsored participant: Mount Sinai-Oxford Consortium, Conference on <u>Medicine in a Multi-cultural Society</u> . St. Thomas Hospital, London.	April 2002
Reproductive Technology in Israel – A Cultural and Legal Analysis	Invited speaker: Department of Justice, Canada: <u>Biotechnology 2002 Conference</u> Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	February 2002
Biotechnology: Legal, Ethical and Social Issues	Sponsored Fellow: <u>Salzburg Seminar</u> . Session 392	October 2001
Ethical Aspects of Genetic Interventions: The Shaping of Human Identity	Mount Sinai-Oxford Consortium, Conference on <u>Bioethics</u> . Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York	April 2001
Genetic Intervention Between Therapy and Enhancement: A Philosophical Point of View	<u>Eight International Congress on Ethics in Medicine</u> . Beer Sheva, Israel	November 2000
	Sponsored participant: <u>Fifth World Congress of Bioethics: Ethics, Law and Public Policy</u> . Imperial College, London.	September 2000
Ethical Aspects of Gamete Donation - How Far Should We Go?	Invited speaker: International conference on <u>Reproductive Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology: Challenges in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium</u> . Tel Aviv, Israel	April 2000
	Sponsored participant: Mount Sinai - Oxford Consortium, <u>Conference on Bioethics</u> . Oriel College, Oxford	April 2000
The Right to Procreate in the Age of Technologically Assisted Reproduction	International Conference on <u>Medical Ethics at the Close of the 20th Century</u> . Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, Israel	January 1998
The Cross-Cultural Values Database Project: Goals and Challenges	<u>First World Congress on Computational Medicine</u> . Austin, Texas	May 1994

## Academic Presentations (selected)

Topic	Event	Date
Stem Cell Research: Ethical and Political Aspects	Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, Israel	July 2003
Ethical and Legal Aspects of Genetic Technologies and Genetic Information	Course on <u>Medicine, Law and Ethics</u> , Hebrew University, Israel	June 2003
Genetic Interventions and the “Child’s Best Interests”	<u>Seminar on Genetics and Society</u> , Gertner Institute, Tel Hashomer, Israel	May 2003
Identity Shaping in Liberal Thought: Between Autonomy and Culture	<u>Colloquium of the Philosophy Department</u> , Bar-Ilan University, Israel	May 2003
Ethical Aspects of Stem Cell Research and Therapeutic Cloning	Seminar on <u>Cloning and Stem Cell Research</u> , Schlesinger Institute for Medical Halachic Research, Israel	March 2003
Patient and Family: Ethical Aspects	<u>Annual Conference of the Psycho-Oncology Association</u> , Israel	February 2003
Philosophical Aspects of Reproduction and Parenthood	<u>Specialized training seminar for IVF nurses</u> , Tel Aviv University, Israel	2001 - 2003
1. The Right to Procreate 2. Ethical Aspects of Gene Therapy	Course on <u>Ethical Dilemmas in Healthcare</u> , School of Public Health, Hebrew University, Jerusalem	1999-2003
Cultural and Social Aspects of IVF in Israel Today	<u>Colloquium on Medical Ethics</u> , The Bruce Rappaport Faculty of Medicine, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology	December 2002
Ethical Aspects of Embryonic Stem Cell Research	Conference on <u>Embryonic Stem Cell Research – Opportunities and Obstacles</u> , Organized by the Israeli Ministry of Science, Tel Aviv	November 2002
Ethical Aspects of the Proposed Law on Treatment of the Terminally Ill Patient	Conference on <u>Treatment of the Terminally Ill: The Legislation and Its Aspects</u> , International Center for Ethics and Human Values, Mishkenot Sha’ananim, Jerusalem	November 2002
Prenatal Genetic Testing: Ethical Aspects	Conference on <u>The Identity of the Embryo</u> , organized by the Israeli Association for the Advancement of IVF Nursing, Tel Hashomer, Israel.	November 2002
Reproductive Technology in Israel	<u>Colloquium</u> , Centre de recherche en droit public, Faculté de droit, Université de Montréal, Canada	January 2002
Ethical Aspects of the Human Genome	Conference on <u>Biotechnology – A National Project for the Next Five</u>	January

Project	<u>Years</u> , Tel Aviv, Israel	2002
The Right to Procreate – Philosophical Aspects	Annual meeting of the Israeli Association for Fertility Research ('Ayala'), Tel Aviv, Israel	May 2001
What Is Bioethics?	Conference of the Israeli Ministry of Justice, for lawyers and legal counselors, on <u>Bioethics, Medicine and Law</u>	November 2000
Reproductive Technology in Israel – A Cultural and Legal Analysis	<u>Colloquium of the Health Care Ethics and Philosophy Department</u> , Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Maastricht, Netherlands	June 2000
Ethical Aspects of Cloning	<u>Symposium on Human Cloning</u> , Health Sciences Faculty, Ben Gurion University, Israel	June 2000
Ethical Aspects of End of Life Treatment	Conference on <u>End of Life Treatment: Ethical, Legal and Clinical Aspects</u> , of the Israeli Gerontological Association, Israel	May 2000
The Right to Procreate	<u>Specialized training seminar for IVF nurses</u> , Kaplan Hospital, Israel	May 1999
Genetic Information: Human Rights and Social Obligations	Inter-faculty seminar on the <u>Social and Ethical Implications of the Genetic Revolution</u> , Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel	April 1999
Ethical Aspects in the Healthcare of Children: Decision Making and Informed Consent	Conference on <u>Ethical Issues in Nursing</u> , Schneider Children Hospital, Israel	January 1999
Ethical Aspects of Gene Therapy	Conference marking the <u>Opening of the Center for Gene Therapy</u> , Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem	January 1999

### Membership in committees and think tanks

Position	Date
Invited participant, Social and Welfare Committee of the Israeli Parliament, meeting regarding 'raising public awareness of organ donation'	June 2003
Invited participant, Public Appeals Committee of the Israeli Parliament, meeting regarding the creation of sperm-bank for IDF soldiers for optional post-humous use	November 2002
Invited participant, Science and Technology Committee of the Israeli Parliament,	September

meeting regarding 'post-humous use of sperm'	2002
Invited participant, discussion on the Israeli position regarding the "International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings", Office of Chief Scientist, Ministry of Science	August 2002
Member of Inter-University Faculty Study Group on Science & Religion, Bar Ilan University, funded by the John Templeton Foundation, as a grant of the Philadelphia Center for Religion and Science (PCRS)	2002-2003
Formal appointment by Minister of Health to the Public Committee for Discussion of End of Life Treatment – Philosophical Sub-committee (headed by Prof. Asa Kasher)	2000-2002
Member of discussion group on Social Justice and Health Rights of the Gertner Institute – Unit for Health Rights and Ethics, Ministry of Health	2003-1998
Invited participant, Science and Technology Committee of the Israeli Parliament, meeting regarding the "Genetic Information Act"	September 2000
Invited participant, Science and Technology Committee of the Israeli Parliament, meeting regarding "Science and Ethics"	May 2000
Invited participant, discussion on posthumous use of human sperm, Ministry of Justice, Legal Counseling Department	June 1999
Invited participant, Science and Technology Committee of the Israeli Parliament, meeting regarding the "Prohibition of Genetic Intervention (Human Cloning and Genetic Manipulation of Reproductive Cells) Law"	December 1998
Member of steering committee of the project "Judaism and Liberalism – A Dialogue About Human Rights" of the Israeli Association of Human Rights	1997
Member of think tank on medical ethics, Van Leer Institute, Israel	1997-1995

## Publications

### Academic:

Ravitsky, Vardit. "Dying with Dignity in a Jewish-Democratic State." In – Hurwitz, Peter Joel, Picard, Jacque & Steinberg, Avraham (eds.) *Jewish Ethics and the Caring for the End-of-Life Patient*. Forthcoming.

Ariel Revel, Miki Weintraub, Anat Safran, Eitan Gross, Avishag Keidari, Dan Shefi, **Vardit Ravitsky** and Neri Laufer. "Fertility Preservation in Girls - A Multidisciplinary Approach is Required." Submitted to *Pediatrics*.

Ravitsky, Vardit. "Embryonic Stem Cell Research and Therapeutic Cloning: An Israeli Point of View." In - Proceedings of conference on Cloning in Biomedical Research and Reproduction: Scientific Aspects – Ethical and Social Limits, Berlin 14-16 May 2003.

Shalev, Carmel, Lev, Boaz & **Ravitsky, Vardit**. "Public Funding of IVF in Israel – Ethical and Cultural Aspects." *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*. Submitted.

Gross, Michael & **Ravitsky, Vardit**. 2003. "Israel: Bioethics in a Jewish-Democratic State." *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics* Vol. 12 no. 3, pp. 247-255.

Ravitsky, Vardit. "Genetics and Education: The Ethics of Shaping Human Identity." 2002. *The Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine* Vol. 69, No. 5: 312-16.

(In Hebrew)

Ravitsky, Vardit. 2002. "The Right to Procreate in the Age of Technologically Assisted Reproduction", In Raphael Cohen-Almagor (ed.) *Moral Dilemmas in Medicine*. Jerusalem: The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and Hakibbutz Hameuchad Publishing House.

### **Others:**

(In Hebrew)

Ravitsky, Vardit. 2003. "Ethical and Legal Aspects of Fertility Treatment." In – Bar Hava & Sheinkman Ben-Zeev (eds.) *Infertility from A to Z: All You Need to Know About Infertility*.

(In Hebrew)

Ravitsky, Vardit & Traubman, Tamara. 2002. "Mapping the Genome." *Galileo – Periodical on Science and Thought*, Vol. 51.

(In Hebrew)

Ravitsky, Vardit & Ben-Or, Gali. 2001. "Therapeutic Cloning." *Ha'aretz*, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

(In Hebrew)

Ravitsky, Vardit. 2000. "Children are Joy: The Right to Parenthood in the Age of Reproductive Technology." *Deot* 8 (July Issue): 11-14.

(In Hebrew)

Ravitsky, Vardit. "The Ethics of Human Gene Therapy." 2000. Internal publication on *Bioethics, Medicine and Law*. The Institute of Legal Training for Attorneys and Legal Advisors, Ministry of Justice.

### **Public Media**

Numerous TV and radio interviews. Examples:

- \* "When ethics meet genetics" - Radio interview in "What should we expect in the third millennium?" Channel 1, Israeli radio (January 2000).
- \* "Genetics and stem cell research" - TV interview, Science channel, documentary on the biotechnological revolution (September 2002).
- \* "Dilemmas in medical ethics" TV, discussion moderator, Academic channel (March 2003).