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# Value conflicts

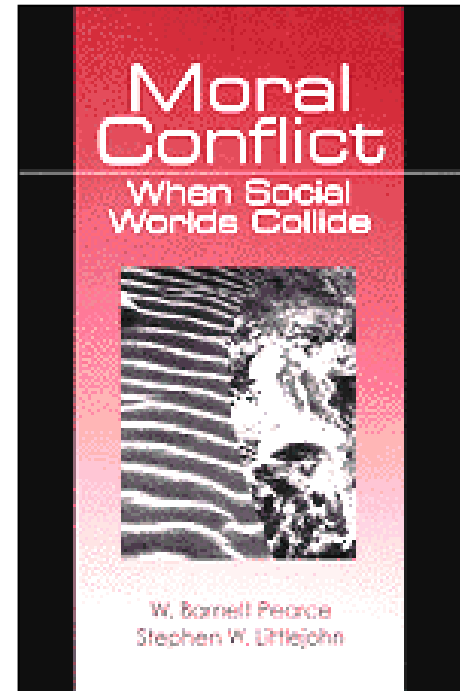
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Recognising them

Resolving them in line with Article 3

# what are they?

- When for cultural, historical or religious reasons groups have widely differing moral frameworks and thus conflicting values



- When, within a culture, accepted values in one area of activity are in contradiction to accepted values in another

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# When groups have widely differing moral frameworks and thus conflicting values

- Child abuse – A relative or absolute concept? .

Chand (2000) : *“Overall cultural differences in the way families rear their children should be.... respected, but where child abuse does occur it should be understood that this particular family has gone beyond what is acceptable not only in the British culture, but in their own”*

- Jehovah’s witnesses and blood transfusion
  - Sex education in schools – the right of children to information in conflict with some religious groups
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*“Because values and morals tend to be quite stable, people are often unwilling to negotiate or compromise with respect to these topics. Indeed, if the basic substantive issues of the conflict are deeply embedded in the participants' moral orders, these issues are likely to be quite intractable.”*

Maiese 2003

- **Features of moral conflicts**

- misunderstanding, mistrust, strained and hostile communication, negative stereotyping, non-negotiability

- **Dealing with moral conflicts**

- Using Stories.
  - Reframing: - focusing more on attainable interests and less on non-negotiable positions or negative stereotypes.
  - Dialogue: a process of in-depth communication that allows parties to get to know each other better and to find commonalities
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When accepted values within a culture in one area of activity are in contradiction to accepted values in another

- ❑ Within the convention
    - Right to family life/right to protection from harm
    - Freedom from exploitation/right to work
  
  - ❑ Free market economics and the protection of children from poverty
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# When the needs or rights of one group are in conflict with those of another

- Priority setting – where to spend money in healthcare
    - Influence of a “childist” society on how priority setting achieved and how to effectively challenge this
  - Parental rights/child’s rights
    - Decision to continue or terminate a pregnancy in a 13 year old girl
    - Decision when to terminate treatment in a dying child
    - Rights of a parent with severe mental illness vs. safety of child
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# Conflicts between the needs of different groups of children:

- Special educational needs: inclusion of children in mainstream school of learning disabled children with challenging behaviour
  - Siblings of children with profound disability or life threatening chronic illness
    - Who wins out?
    - Are the mechanisms for resolving these adequate?
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