

DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

DIALOGUE 157

Research, from the Laboratory to the Community or Vice-Versa?

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The National Center for Bioethics in Research and Heath Care, Tuskegee University

12:00 p.m., Friday, January 9, 2015 RMSB, 4th-Floor Auditorium

A light lunch will be provided

Human subject research is purportedly conducted to improve the human condition and, in most instances, it does. However, there have been repeated instances, throughout history in various parts of the world, where bioethics violations have occurred. Most often, the violations have disproportionally and adversely affected vulnerable populations to include, but not limited to: people of color, low-income populations, women, children, and persons living with physical or mental disabilities or illnesses, or who are institutionalized or incarcerated. This presentation will review historic bioethics violations, particularly those adversely affecting people of color, such as the U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study at Tuskegee. The goal of the presentation is to highlight consistencies in these bioethics violations, discuss lessons learned (or not learned) and how violations can be prevented. The roles that race/ethnic, sex/gender and/or class biases may play in bioethics violations will also be discussed. At the end of the presentation, it is expected that more discerning and ethical approaches to research will result, as well as intentional roles that faculty, administrators, staff, students and community members may play in assuring that bioethics principles are followed.

Dr. Warren is Director of the National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care and Professor of Bioethics at Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama. Until he joined Tuskegee University in 2009, he served as Director of the Institute for Faith-Health Leadership and Adjunct Professor of Public Health, Medicine and Ethics at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. From 1988 to 1997, Dr. Warren served as Associate Director for Minority Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). From 1997 to 2004, he was Associate Director for Urban Affairs at the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). As Associate Director at CDC/ATSDR, he had lead agency responsibility for Environmental Justice and Minority Health.

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