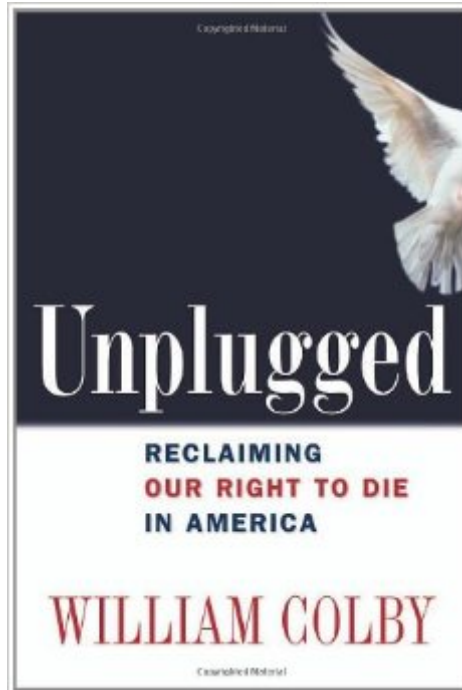


The book was found

# Unplugged: Reclaiming Our Right To Die In America



## Synopsis

It often seems that medical technology is a never-ending string of miracles. But it is also a double-edged sword. More often than not, death today happens because of a decision to stop doing something, or to not do it at all. As the tragic life and death of Terri Schiavo so poignantly illustrated, universal definitions of life, death, nature, and many other concepts are elusive at best. *Unplugged* addresses the fundamental questions of the right-to-die debate, and discusses how the medical advances that bring so much hope and healing have also helped to create today's dilemma. Now in paperback, this compelling book illuminates the complex legal, ethical, medical, and deeply personal issues of a debate that ultimately affects us all. Compassionate and beautifully written, the book helps readers understand the implications of current laws and proposed legislation, various medical options (including hospice), and the typical end-of-life decisions we all must face in order to make informed decisions for ourselves and our loved ones. The hardcover edition was chosen by "The Library Journal" as one of the Best Consumer Health Books of 2006.

## Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: AMACOM; 1 edition (December 12, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0814401600

ISBN-13: 978-0814401606

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 6.1 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,494,810 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > Law > Health & Medical Law > Right to Die](#) #30 in [Books > Law > Estate Planning > Living Wills](#) #544 in [Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Doctor-Patient Relations](#)

## Customer Reviews

Between author William H. Colby's role as the attorney for the family of Nancy Cruzan - who fought for the removal of her feeding tube, when she was in a Persistent Vegetative State 15 years before the Schiavo case dominated national discourse - and "Unplugged"'s subtitle, "Reclaiming our Right to Die in America", you might expect unsubtle advocacy. Colby doesn't give it, however; and although he talks about being impartial at excessive length, he does stick to the facts when the 3 individual cases (Karen Ann Quinlan, Nancy Cruzan, and Terri Schiavo) on the right-to-die issue he

discusses are brought up. The most valuable part of the book was the grounding Colby gives in the evolution of Medical Technology and the role this has played in the debate and how it's arisen; it's striking how new these issues are and how much they are dependent on technology. PVS patients weren't sustainable at all in the past - the term wasn't even coined until 1972 - and the difference between the extensive surgery for a feeding tube for Quinlan and Cruzan, and the simple procedure for Schiavo, is vast; it may get even simpler tomorrow. Given that debates have turned on how extreme the measures taken are - and how hopeless a situation is - the moral debates are going to continually change as technology develops, a situation Colby illustrates well. He also shows the potential pitfalls in living wills and the legal mess that still surrounds this issue; his solution is a power of attorney form and discussion with your loved ones. Giving them the power to make decisions and extensive knowledge of what you wanted is a good; a united family with clear knowledge of your desires is unlikely to have trouble carrying them out. Even if the point in the book is repeated ad nauseum.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Unplugged: Reclaiming Our Right to Die in America  
The Fatherless Daughter Project:  
Understanding Our Losses and Reclaiming Our Lives  
Beckett Racing Collectibles & Die-Cast Price Guide (Beckett Racing Collectibles and Die-Cast Price Guide)  
Standard Catalog Of Die-Cast Vehicles: Identification And Values, Revised Edition (Standard Catalog of Die-Cast Vehicles)  
Racing Die-Cast Collectibles : The Industry's Most Comprehensive Pricing and Checklists of Die-Cast Cars and Accessories  
Eat, Pray, Die (An Eat, Pray, Die Humorous Mystery Book 1)  
1,000 Recordings to Hear Before You Die (1,000... Before You Die Books)  
One Teacher: Jesus' Teaching Role in Matthew's Gospel Report (Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der Älteren Kirche)  
The Cult of the Amateur: How blogs, MySpace, YouTube, and the rest of today's user-generated media are destroying our economy, our culture, and our values  
Our Story: 77 Hours That Tested Our Friendship and Our Faith  
Modified: GMOs and the Threat to Our Food, Our Land, Our Future  
Vaccine Epidemic: How Corporate Greed, Biased Science, and Coercive Government Threaten Our Human Rights, Our Health, and Our Children  
The Story of Stuff: How Our Obsession with Stuff Is Trashing the Planet, Our Communities, and Our Health-and a Vision for Change  
Law, Immunization and the Right to Die  
Doctor, Please Close the Door!: A Book on Living Wills, Powers of Attorney, Terminal Care, and the Right to Die  
With Dignity  
An Act of Love: One Woman's Remarkable Life Story and Her Fight for the Right to Die with Dignity  
Assisted Suicide and the Right to Die: The Interface of Social Science, Public Policy, and Medical Ethics  
Right to Die?: Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide and End-of-Life Care  
The Right to Die?: Caring Alternatives to

# Euthanasia Life Planning in New Mexico: Your Guide to State Law on Powers of Attorney, Right to Die, Nursing Ho

[Dmca](#)