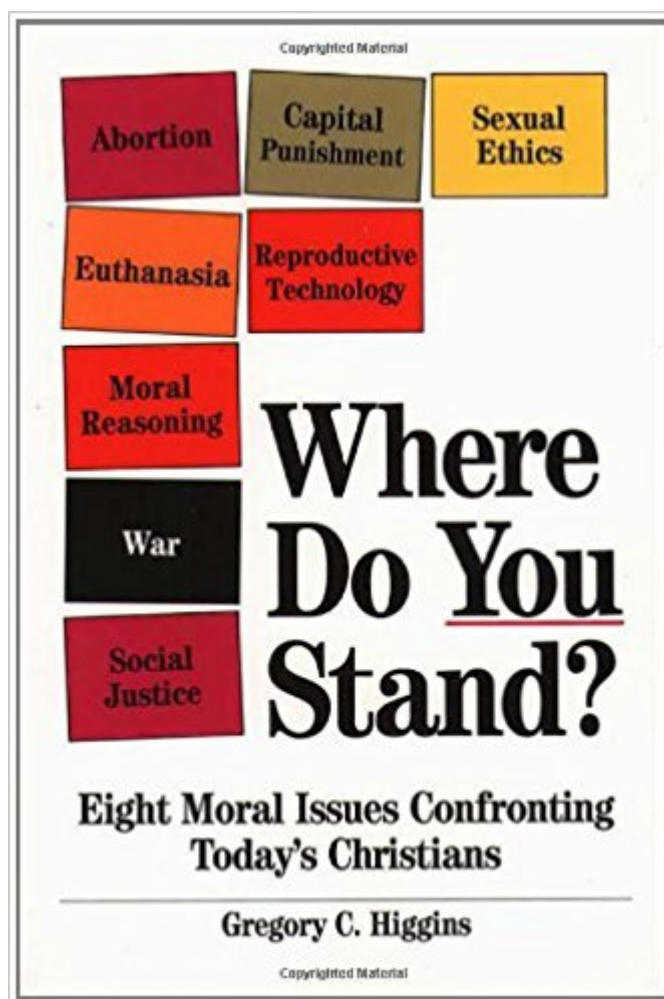


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# Where Do You Stand?: Eight Moral Issues Confronting Today's Christians



## Synopsis

Examines the particulars behind eight crucial moral issues of the day and challenges the reader to take a personal stand on them.

## Book Information

Paperback: 119 pages

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## Customer Reviews

Concisely lays out the issues in simple, concrete terms in a challenging fashion. --Pastoral Life

This book offers a way of reflecting on eight "life" issues, ranging from sex to capital punishment. It doesn't give answers. It does ask questions. Each issue is explored by a process that offers mature arguments from proponents of different views, yet that leads the reader to make a personal commitment to one course or another. The process consists of concrete situations that put the moral issue in the real-life perspective; a detailed examination of the underlying questions, with arguments supporting each side; discussion questions for group interaction or personal reflection; and suggested readings, resources for those who wish to pursue the questions in more depth.

Nice book so far, I use it for school purpose, however it wasn't a new book, according to what I paid for, it was peeled off the sticker they place on the corner of the book.

Excellent Condition Thanks

great examples just wordy

This is a wonderful book on moral issues of today. It is well written and gets right to the point quickly.

the book was a book picked for class and it has only two opinions views i'm not catholic and its what the college curriculum had so I felt that the book was ok

The book's content is "deliberately limited" to some sensitive "life" issues "about which the Vatican or the National Conference of Catholic Bishops has issued some official teaching." These teachings (as well as the reasoning behind them) are even-handedly presented. But contrarian perspectives are also given a hearing--e.g., on war we get not only just war theory, but also the point of view of Christian militarism and that of pacifism. Does this potentially muddy the decision-making waters? The author rather hopes so--"I believe that those who have little background in these matters benefit from first hearing both sides before having to take a stand." Being able to simply parrot a party line is NOT an outcome that the author desires for his readers. An introductory chapter on moral reasoning, seven to ten practical cases on each issue (a college student selling his sperm to a sperm bank, for instance), open-ended and provocative discussion questions, and suggested readings for greater depth are provided. This reviewer has been using a very similar approach for decades in programs on moral decision making. The participants invariably come away with a deeper and more insightful grasp of the issues and their fundamental or circumstantial complexities.

In my personal experience, I have met a number of Catholics who are unenlightened and unthoughtful, and many who are. Higgins certainly fits in with the latter. He is a man of intellect and integrity whose works do not warrant such harsh criticism. He is without a doubt a brilliant theologian, and his ideas cannot be dismissed by such ad hominem attacks. He is deeply pious but also reasonable, and if there is anyone who truly represents the ideal of Catholicism, it is Higgins.

Then you will like this book. If you follow the Church's teaching, live by it, love it and follow it, prepare to be terribly insulted. You will be called a "robotic Catholic" and one who is not "tolerant" of dissenting teaching. It is a Protestant book shrouded by Catholic terminology, but not Catholic understanding. The author misses a perfect opportunity to viably discuss Catholic theology. Instead, we are posed with immoral choices compared to even more immoral choices without true understanding of why or how they are immoral. The author has no concept of a true moral dilemma.

Church teaching is presented as only one of many "opinions" equal, and even inferior to any number of other "individuals" opinions. Those looking for a moral compass should look for a more definitive teaching. I would suggest the Catechism of the Catholic Church for beginners.

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