**End of Life Paper**

**N457- Palliative Care**

**Purpose of Assignment**

This discussion will help the student to gain understanding of ethical dilemmas revolving around end of life issues that may occur during patient care. Understanding of the use of ethical strategies in patient care decisions is vital.

**Student Approach to Assignment**

For this assignment the topic I chose was the ethical dilemma, *Should Brain Dead Women Have Access to Euthanasia when Pregnancy is Involved?* I chose this topic because it is a difficult conversation that needs to be had. It is a very specific topic, but it is more common than people would like to assume. From this assignment I learned the precedents that have already been established, and what are the ethical and legal positions that can be taken on the matter.

**Reason for Inclusion of this Assignment in the Portfolio**

This assignment was included in my portfolio, because it demonstrates my ability in using ethical decision-making strategies and formulating my personal position regarding the issue. The following competency in the paper is highlighted below:

* **Culture**
  + *Demonstrates sensitivity to personal and cultural definition of health, and how these beliefs influence an individual’s reactions to the illness experience and end of life*
    - Example: In this paper, I examine society’s and my personal views regarding issues such as abortion, withdrawal of treatment and advance care planning. I go on to defend the right of a woman in being able to have an advanced directive carried out regardless of pregnancy as well as the right of the fetus to live. I also discuss the implication that being brain dead has on the topic, and conflicting views of being brain dead but on life support from the public.

**Nursing Honor Code**

"I pledge to support the Honor System of Old Dominion University. I will refrain from any form of academic dishonesty or deception, such as cheating or plagiarism. I am aware that as a member of the academic community, it is my responsibility to turn in all suspected violators of the Honor Code. I will report to a hearing if summoned.”

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Sarah Jean\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Sarah Jean\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: 4.23.19