Bioethics at the Box Office

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Issues:
Bioethics
Special Resource Types:
Reviews
Movie & TV Reviews

CBHD often receives requests from educators and other individuals for popular resources that engage bioethics through various media (fiction, film, and television). In this resource, we offer a recap of relevant materials that have premiered on the silver screen or television. Readers are cautioned that the films represent a wide variety of genres and may not be appropriate for all audiences. The reason for the rating classification is provided where available. Viewers are encouraged to read annotations/synopses available through such websites as www.movieweb.com or www.imdb.com. If there is a film you think we missed, email us at info@cbhd.org.


Biotechnology

- *Repo! The Genetic Opera!* (2008, R for strong bloody violence and fore, language, some drug and sexual content)
Clinical Ethics

- *Awakenings* (1990, PG-13)
- *A Clockwork Orange* (1972, R)
- *The Constant Gardener* (2005, R for language, some violent images and sexual content/nudity)
- *Dying Young* (1991, R)
- *Elephant Man* (1980, PG)
- *Extreme Measures* (1996, R for violence, language, some nudity, and graphic ER activity)
- *Heartsounds* (1984, PG)
- *The Hospital* (1972, PG-13 for thematic elements, sexual content and drug references)
- *Losing Isaiah* (1995, R for drug related material and brief strong language)
- *Miss Evers’ Boys* (1997, PG for theme and related elements)
- *My Sister’s Keeper* (2009, PG-13 for mature thematic content, some disturbing images, sensuality, language, and brief teen drinking)
- *Passion Fish* (1992, R)
- *A Place for Annie* (1994, PG for thematic elements and language)
- *Side Effects* (2013, R for sexuality, nudity, violence, and language)
- *Something the Lord Made* (2004, NR)
- *The Verdict* (1982, R)

Cloning

- *Blade Runner* (1982, R for violence)
- *The Boys from Brazil* (1978, R)
- *Godsend* (2004, PG-13 for violence including frightening images, a scene of sexuality, and some thematic material)
- *The Island* (2005, PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sexuality and language)
- *Moon* (2010, R for language)
- *Never Let Me Go* (2010, Rated R for some sexuality and nudity)
- *Oblivion* (2013, PG-13 for sci-fi action violence, brief strong language, and some sensuality/nudity)

Disability Ethics

- *Away from Her* (2007, PG-13 for some strong language)
- *Charly* (1968, PG)
- *Elephant Man* (1980, PG)
- *Guarding Eddy* (2005, PG for thematic elements, language, some mild violent content and brief smoking)
- *The Intouchables* (2012, R for language and some drug use)
- *Mask* (1985, R)
- *Music Within* (2007, R for including sexual references and some drug content)
- *Praying with Lior* (2008, NR, documentary)

### Emerging Technology

- *Artificial Intelligence* (2001, PG-13 for some sexual content and violent images)
- *Avatar* (2009, PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and warfare, sensuality, language and some smoking)
- *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015, PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action, violence and destruction, and for some suggestive comments)
- *Bicentennial Man* (1999, PG for language and some sexual content)
- *Chappie* (2015, R for violence, language, and brief nudity)
- *Elysium* (2013, R for strong bloody violence and language throughout)
- *Ex Machina* (2015, R for graphic nudity, language, sexual references, and some violence)
- *Gamer* (2009, R for frenetic sequences of strong brutal violence throughout, sexual content, nudity, and language)
- *Her* (2013, R for language, sexual content, and brief graphic nudity)
- *Inception* (2010, PG-13 for sequences of violence and action throughout)
- *Maze Runner* (2014, PG-13 for thematic elements and intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action, including some disturbing images)
- *Real Steel* (2011, PG-13 for some violence, intense action and brief language)
- *Repo Men* (2010, R for strong bloody violence, grisly images, language, and some sexuality/nudity)
- *Surrogates* (2009, PG-13 for intense sequences of violence, disturbing images, language, sexuality, and a drug-related scene)
- *Transcendence* (2014, PG-13 for sci-fi action and violence, some bloody images, brief strong language and sensuality)
- *Tron Legacy* (2010, PG for sequences of sci-fi action violence and brief mild language)
- *Ultraviolet* (2006, PG-13 for sequences of violent action throughout, partial nudity, and language)

### End-of-Life

- *50/50* (2011, R for language throughout, sexual content and some drug use)
- *Amour* (2012, PG-13 for mature thematic material including a disturbing act, and for brief language)
- *Away From Her* (2007, PG-13 for some strong language)
- *Barbarian Invasions* (2003, R for language, sexual dialogue, and drug content)
Genetic Ethics

- **Avatar** (2009, PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and warfare, sensuality, language and some smoking)
- **Babylon A.D.** (2008, PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, language and some sexuality)
- **Bourne Legacy** (2012, PG-13 for violence and action sequences)
- **Code 46** (2004, R for a scene of sexuality, including brief graphic nudity)
- **Extraordinary Measures** (2010, PG for thematic material, language, and a mild suggestive moment)
- **Gattaca** (1997, PG-13 for brief violent images, language, and some sexuality)
- **The Giver** (2014, PG-13 for a mature thematic image and some sci-fi action/violence)
- **Hanna** (2011, PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sexual material and language)
- **I Am Legend** (2007, PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence)
- **In the Family** (2008, NR, documentary)
- **In Time** (2011, PG-13 for violence, some sexuality and partial nudity, and strong language)
- **The Island of Dr. Moreau** (1996, PG-13 for sci-fi violence, horror, and gore involving mutant creatures)
- **Isolation** (2006, R for violence/gore, language, and a scene of sexuality)
- **Jurassic Park** (1993, PG-13 for intense science fiction terror)
- **Man of Steel** (2013, PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi violence, action and destruction, and for some language)
- **Memory** (2007, R for language and frightening images)
- **My Sister?s Keeper** (2009, PG-13 for mature thematic content, some disturbing images, sensuality, language, and brief teen drinking)
- *Resident Evil: Extinction* (2007, R for strong horror violence throughout and some nudity)
- *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* (2011, PG-13 for intense and frightening sequences of action and violence)
- *Splice* (2010, R for disturbing elements including strong sexuality, nudity, sci-fi violence and language)
- *Ultraviolet* (2006, PG-13 for sequences of violent action throughout, partial nudity, and language)

### Global Bioethics

- *The Constant Gardener* (2005, R for language, some violent images and sexual content/nudity)
- *Pregnant in America* (2008, NR, documentary)

### Healthcare

- *Critical Care* (1997, R for language and a scene of sexuality)
- *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* (2007, PG-13 for nudity, sexual content, and some language)
- *Elysium* (2013, R for strong bloody violence and language throughout)
- *An Enemy of the People* (1978, G)
- *Patch Adams* (1998, PG-13 for some strong language and crude humor)
- *Side Effects* (2013, R for sexuality, nudity, violence, and language)

### Human Dignity

- *Children of a Lesser God* (1986, R)
- *Coming Home* (1979, R)
- *Do You Remember Love?* (1985, NR)
- *Elephant Man* (1980, PG)
- *Erin Brockovich* (2000, R for language)
- *Good Will Hunting* (1998, R for strong language, including some sex-related dialogue)
- *The Intouchables* (2012, R for language and some drug use)
- *Iris* (2001, R)
- *My Left Foot* (1989, R)
- *Normal* (2003, NR)
- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo?s Nest* (1976, R)
- *Philadelphia* (1993, PG-13 for some graphic language and thematic material)
- *Rain Man* (1988, R)
Human Enhancement

- *The Age of Adaline* (2015, PG-13 for a suggestive comment)
- *Elysium* (2013, R for strong bloody violence and language throughout)
- *Gattaca* (1997, PG-13 for brief violent images, language, and some sexuality)
- *Hanna* (2011, PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sexual material and language)
- *In Time* (2011, PG-13 for violence, some sexuality and partial nudity, and strong language)
- *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (1996, PG-13 for sci-fi violence, horror, and gore involving mutant creatures)
- *Limitless* (2011, PG-13 for thematic material involving a drug, violence including disturbing images, sexuality and language)
- *Lucy* (2014, R for strong violence, disturbing images, and sexuality)
- *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* (2011, PG-13 for intense and frightening sequences of action and violence)
- *Self/less* (2015, PG-13 for sequences of violence, some sexuality, and language)
- *Transcendence* (2014, PG-13 for sci-fi action and violence, some bloody images, brief strong language and sensuality)
- *Tron Legacy* (2010, PG for sequences of sci-fi action violence and brief mild language)
- *Youth Knows No Pain* (2009, NR, documentary)

Neuroethics

- *Elysium* (2013, R for strong bloody violence and language throughout)
- *Gamer* (2009, R for frenetic sequences of strong brutal violence throughout, sexual content, nudity, and language)
- *Inception* (2010, PG-13 for sequences of violence and action throughout)
- *Just Another Love Story* (2008, NR)
- *Limitless* (2011, PG-13 for thematic material involving a drug, violence including disturbing images, sexuality and language)
- *Lucy* (2014, R for strong violence, disturbing images, and sexuality)
- *Maze Runner* (2014, PG-13 for thematic elements and intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action, including some disturbing images)
- *Self/less* (2015, PG-13 for sequences of violence, some sexuality, and language)
- *Side Effects* (2013, R for sexuality, nudity, violence, and language)
- *Source Code* (2011, PG-13 for some violence including disturbing images, and for language)
- *Surrogates* (2009, PG-13 for intense sequences of violence, disturbing images, language, sexuality, and a drug-related scene)
- *Total Recall* (2012, PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action, some sexual content, brief nudity, and language)
- *Transcendence* (2014, PG-13 for sci-fi action and violence, some bloody images, brief strong language and sensuality)
Organ Donation & Transplantation

- *Coma* (1978, PG)
- *The Eye* (2008, PG-13 for violence/terror and disturbing content)
- *Never Let Me Go* (2010, R for some sexuality and nudity)
- *Repo! The Genetic Opera!* (2008, R for strong bloody violence and gore, language, some drug and sexual content)
- *Repo Men* (2010, R for strong bloody violence, grisly images, language, and some sexuality/nudity)
- *Seven Pounds* (2008, PG-13 for thematic material, some disturbing content, and a scene of sensuality)
- *Steel Magnolias* (1989, PG)

Patient?s Rights / Informed Consent / Human Dignity

- *Children of a Lesser God* (1986, R)
- *Coming Home* (1979, R)
- *Do You Remember Love?* (1985, NR)
- *Elephant Man* (1980, PG)
- *Erin Brockovich* (2000, R for language)
- *Good Will Hunting* (1998, R for strong language, including some sex-related dialogue)
- *The Intouchables* (2012, R for language and some drug use)
- *Iris* (2001, R)
- *My Left Foot* (1989, R)
- *Normal* (2003, NR)
- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo?s Nest* (1976, R)
- *Philadelphia* (1993, PG-13 for some graphic language and thematic material)
- *Rain Man* (1988, R)
- *When a Man Loves a Woman* (1994, R for language)

Public Health

- *Contagion* (2011, PG-13 for disturbing content and some language)
- *The Insider* (1999, R for language)
Public Policy

- *Delivery Man* (2013, PG-13 for thematic elements, sexual content, some drug material, brief violence and language)

Reproductive Ethics

- *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (2008, NR)
- *Baby Mama* (2008, PG-13 for crude and sexual humor, language and a drug reference)
- *The Back-Up Plan* (2010, PG-13 for sexual content including references, some crude material and language)
- *The Brothers Solomon* (2007, R for language and sexual content)
- *Delivery Man* (2013, PG-13 for thematic elements, sexual content, some drug material, brief violence and language)
- *Flatliners* (1990, R)
- *The Handmaid’s Tale* (1990, R)
- *If These Walls Could Talk* (1996, R for realistic depiction of abortions, a graphic shooting and some language)
- *Interstellar* (2014, PG-13 for some intense perilous action and brief strong language)
- *Juno* (2007, PG-13 for mature thematic material, sexual content and language)
- *The Kids Are All Right* (2010, R for strong sexual content, nudity, language, and some teen drug and alcohol use)
- *Kids Like These* (1987, NR)
- *Malice* (1993, R for sexuality, language and some violence)
- *Maybe Baby* (2001, R for sexual content and language)
- *Misconception* (2010, NR)
- *Miss Conception* (2008, R for language and some sexual content)
- *My Sister's Keeper* (2009, PG-13 for mature thematic content, some disturbing images, sensuality, language, and brief teen drinking)
- *Pregnant in America* (2008, NR, documentary)
- *The Switch* (2010, PG-13 for mature thematic content, sexual material including dialogue, some nudity, drug use, and language)
- *A Walk to Beautiful* (2008, NR, documentary)

Research Ethics
• *Autopsy* (2009, R for strong bloody violence, grisly images, language and drug content)
• *Bourne Legacy* (2012, PG-13 for violence and action sequences)
• *The Constant Gardener* (2005, R for language, some violent images and sexual content/nudity)
• *Extraordinary Measures* (2010, PG for thematic material, language, and a mild suggestive moment)
• *Gamer* (2009, R for frenetic sequences of strong brutal violence throughout, sexual content, nudity, and language)
• *I Am Legend* (2007, PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence)
• *Isolation* (2006, R for violence/gore, language, and a scene of sexuality)
• *Maze Runner* (2014, PG-13 for thematic elements and intense sequences of sci-fi violence and action, including some disturbing images)
• *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* (2011, PG-13 for intense and frightening sequences of action and violence)
• *Shutter Island* (2010, R for disturbing violent content, language, and some nudity)
• *Source Code* (2011, PG-13 for some violence including disturbing images, and for language)
• *Splice* (2010, R for disturbing elements including strong sexuality, nudity, sci-fi violence and language)

**Transhumanism**

• *Lucy* (2014, R for strong violence, disturbing images, and sexuality)
• *Self/less* (2015, PG-13 for sequences of violence, some sexuality, and language)
• *Source Code* (2011, PG-13 for some violence including disturbing images, and for language)
• *Tron Legacy* (2010, PG for sequences of sci-fi action violence and brief mild language)
• *Transcendence* (2014, PG-13 for sci-fi action and violence, some bloody images, brief strong language and sensuality)

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