Laurie

Genetic Privacy

A Challenge to Medico-Legal Norms



The phenomenon of the New Genetics raises complex social problems, particularly those of privacy. This book offers ethical and legal perspectives on the questions of a right to know and not to know genetic information from the standpoint of individuals, their relatives, employers, insurers and the state. Graeme Laurie provides a unique definition of privacy, including a concept of property rights in the person, and argues for stronger legal protection of privacy in the shadow of developments in human genetics. He challenges the role and the limits of established principles in medical law and ethics, including respect for patient autonomy and confidentiality. This book will interest lawyers, philosophers and doctors concerned both with genetic information and issues of privacy; it will also interest genetic counsellors, researchers, and policy makers worldwide for its practical stance on dilemmas in modern genetic medicine.

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149,90 €
149,90 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780521660273
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-0-521-66027-3
Verlag: Cambridge University Press
Erscheinungstermin: 22.05.2004
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2004
Produktform: Gebunden
Gewicht: 741 g
Seiten: 362
Format (B x H): 157 x 235 mm

Kundenservice Verlag Dr. Otto Schmidt KG
Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@otto-schmidt.de | 0221-93738-997 (Inland)