

HAROLD BRASWELL

The Crisis of US Hospice Care

Family and Freedom at the End of Life



The Crisis of US Hospice Care

is a study of the role of familial caregiving in hospice, America's dominant form of end-of-life care. It argues that hospice, to be successful, depends on a very high level of care from family members of dying people. But most families cannot, unfortunately, provide the requisite level of support. The result is a crisis that negatively impacts family members, health care professionals, and, most importantly, dying people themselves. The book examines the historical development of this crisis, and considers how it shapes both hospice delivery and bioethics today. It also explores solutions, which involve not only policy change but also a broader rethinking of American national identity and the meaning of "freedom" at the end of life.

"Drawing on extensive research in various fields as well as his own ethnographic study, Harold Braswell demonstrates that the US hospice system cannot continue to depend on family caregivers and points to a path for reform. *The Crisis of US Hospice Care* is essential reading not only for health professionals, policymakers, and academics but for all of us, because we and our families inevitably will confront the issues Braswell raises."

- Emily K. Abel of the University of California, Los Angeles, author of *Living in Death's Shadow: Family Experiences of Terminal Care and Irreplaceable Loss*



Harold Braswell, PhD

Meet the author, Dr. Harold Braswell, as he celebrates the launch of his new book *The Crisis of US Hospice Care*.

Reception afterwards featuring beverages and hors d'oeuvres.



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
—
ALBERT GNAEGI CENTER FOR
HEALTH CARE ETHICS

Thursday, January 30th

7:00 pm

Link Auditorium

4502 Westminster Place - 63108