

# GRAND ROUNDS

**Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

**Location:** <https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/94211555357?pwd=blZFZXBuVVd1YkFqcVltV2tPWfPndz09>

Meeting ID: 942 1155 5357; Passcode: 569339

**11:00am EST**, (Q&A from 11:55am- 12:15pm moderated by Dr. Stephen Post)

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## **Medicine in the Holocaust: How and Why Doctors Went Wrong**

***Alan Steinberg, MD, MA***

Objectives:

1. Learn the history of eugenics and racial hygiene, which culminated in the Nazi era.
2. Gain knowledge about the role of physicians—who gravitated in larger numbers than any other profession to the Nazi Party of the 1920's—in coining “eugenic phrases” used to justify medical killing, including “life unworthy of life” and “useless eaters.”
3. Consider what we have learned about human nature.
4. Discuss how the Holocaust is still relevant to medical education as an historical context, and why we need to be aware of it.



*Alan L. Steinberg, M.D. is a geriatric and neuro-psychiatrist on Long Island, New York. After earning his medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Dr. Steinberg completed his residency training in Psychiatry at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship at Cornell-New York Hospital. Dr. Steinberg co-founded and directed the Long Island Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center and served as the Medical Director of the Center for Excellence in Alzheimer's Disease at SUNY Stony Brook. He was Principal Psychiatrist at East End Neuropsychiatry Associates, P.C., a multidisciplinary community-based academic and teaching practice based in Centereach, NY. For more than 30 years, his practice has served as a primary training site for Stony Brook School of Medicine's residents in Psychiatry and fellows in Geriatric Medicine.*

*Keenly integrating his interests in medical ethics, history, and philosophy with his professional career, Dr. Steinberg has authored several book chapters, including “Psychiatry and the Guardianship Process,” and “Psychiatric Needs of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities.” He has served as Psychiatric Consultant to the Suffolk County Department of Social Services' Adult Protective Services and continues as a core member of the Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Task Force. Currently, Dr. Steinberg serves as the Medical Director for Long Island's NYSTART (New York Systemic, Therapeutic, Assessment Resources and Treatment) program, offering crisis prevention and response services to people with developmental disabilities and complex behavioral needs, as well as to their families and others who provide support. In 2022, he earned a Master's Degree in Holocaust and Genocide Studies from Gratz College.*

To learn more about the **Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics** and the Master of Arts program, please visit [stonybrook.edu/bioethics/masters](https://stonybrook.edu/bioethics/masters)