



Contact:

Laura Frnka
Pierpont Communications for Holocaust Museum Houston
713-627-2223, ext. 1110
lfrnka@piercom.com

Medical ethics continues to be investigated by leading authorities through analysis of the Holocaust

HOUSTON (October 5, 2007) – "Medical Ethics and the Holocaust," a 15-part lecture series and exhibit that reveals how the practices of the Third Reich influence today's modern medical practices, continues as the Holocaust Museum Houston will present a number of lectures featuring an array of speakers and topics throughout the month of October.

On Tuesday, Oct. 9, **Theresa M. Duello, Ph.D.**, associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and **Jordan Cohen, M.D.**, president emeritus for the Association of American Medical Colleges, will present a joint lecture, "What Should We Tell Medical Students about Racial Hygiene, Cultural Diversity, the Doctor-Patient Relationship and Professionalism?" The lecture will focus on the work done by German medical students during the Holocaust and how they used the Hippocratic Oath to justify the incorporation of Third Reich ideals into the treatment and selection of test patients for experiments.

Edmund Pellegrino, M.D., chairman of the President's Council on Bioethics, will present his lecture, "How Doctors Become Killers," on Tuesday, Oct. 16. In his lecture, Pellegrino will attempt to reveal the motives behind the Nazi doctors from the Nuremberg Trials and how physicians practicing during the Holocaust might have defended their actions.

On the same evening, **Ward Connerly**, founder and chairman of the American Civil Rights Institute, will discuss the relationship between citizens and their government. In his lecture, "What is the Status of Government-Citizen Relationship in the United States Today?" Connerly will speak on the issues that threaten to diminish the role of the individual, while enhancing the role of the government.

On Oct. 23, 2007, **Susan Lederer, Ph.D.**, associate professor of history of medicine at Yale University, will present, "Frankenstein or the More Perfect Human: Who Will It Be?" She will discuss what becomes of a person when he or she is altered and engineered. **Mark Adickes, M.D.**, an orthopedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine at the Roger Clemens Institute for Sports Medicine & Human Performance at Memorial Hermann, will talk about the use of drugs by athletes in his lecture, "Immediate Gratification and the Quest for Perfection -- A Frank Discussion About the Use of Performance-Enhancing Drugs in Sports."

The month of October wraps up as **Lex Frieden**, senior vice president of Memorial-Hermann -TIRR (The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research) and former chairman of the National Council on Disability, moderates a panel of educators, policy influencers and experts in a discussion about disability and genocide on Tuesday, Oct. 30. Frieden and four other experts will discuss the evolution of forced sterilization laws, many of which were not repealed until the 1970s, and how even in 2007, fetuses are aborted for the sole reason that a child will be born with a disability. In this program, the presenters will discuss legal definitions of disability, as well as the history and current practice of disability eugenics in other countries and our own.

--more--

Page 2

All the lectures will take place at Holocaust Museum Houston, 5401 Caroline St., and will begin at 6 p.m.

The lectures are a continuation of a 15-part series designed to help understand how the Holocaust's horrific medical practices shape modern medical ethics. Other upcoming lectures will feature such compelling topics as combining science, medicine and religion to work together, doctors building bombs, and assisted suicide in the movies. All lectures are free, but advanced registration is required. For information on CME and CNE credits for medical professionals attending this program, visit www.utcme.net. All lectures also can be accessed through the World Wide Web or through The University of Texas' teleconferencing system at participating facilities. Please visit www.hmh.org/medethics for more information on viewing the lecture via the Web or at an off-site location.

An exhibit, "How Healing Becomes Killing: Eugenics, Euthanasia and Extermination," complements the lecture series and provides provocative historical documentation of the role played by scientists, physicians and government officials at the six "euthanasia" centers where they murdered thousands of Germany's most vulnerable citizens. There is no admission charge to view the exhibit, now in the Minberg Gallery at the Museum's Morgan Family Center (5401 Caroline St.) in Houston's Museum District. The exhibit runs through Feb. 3, 2008. Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

For more information about "Medical Ethics and the Holocaust," visit www.hmh.org/medethics.

###

About Holocaust Museum Houston Holocaust Museum Houston is dedicated to educating people about the Holocaust, remembering the 6 million Jews and other innocent victims and honoring the survivors' legacy. Using the lessons of the Holocaust and other genocides, the Museum teaches the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy.