



## Contemplating suicide : the language and ethics of self-harm /

Fairbairn, Gavin

Routledge,  
1995

Monografía

"Suicide is devastating. It is an assault on our ideas of what living is about. In *Contemplating Suicide*, Gavin Fairbairn takes a fresh look at suicidal self harm. His view is distinctive in emphasising the intentions that a person has in acting, rather than external facts." "Fairbairn constructs a natural history of suicidal self harm and examines some of the ethical issues it raises. He sets his philosophical reflections against a background of experience in the caring professions and uses a storytelling approach in offering a critique of the current language of self harm. He offers cogent reasons for abandoning the mindless use of terms such as attempted suicide and parasuicide, and introduces a number of new terms including cosmic roulette, which he uses to describe a family of human acts in which people gamble with their lives." "By elaborating a richer model of suicidal self harm than most philosophers and practitioners of caring professions currently inhabit, Fairbairn makes a significant contribution to the development of understanding in this area."--Jacket

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**Título:** Contemplating suicide the language and ethics of self-harm Gavin J. Fairbairn

**Editorial:** London New York Routledge 1995

**Descripción física:** 1 online resource (xiii, 209 pages)

**Mención de serie:** Social ethics and policy series

**Bibliografía:** Includes bibliographical references (pages 201-204) and index

**Contenido:** Machine generated contents note:) 1.) Suicide, Language and Ethics: An Introduction -- 2.) Morals and Means -- 3.) Where Do Our Views of Suicide Come from? -- 4.) Our Impoverished Language of Suicide and Self Harm -- 5.) Suicide and Intention -- 6.) Defining Suicide -- 7.) Extending the Taxonomy of Suicidal Self Harm -- 8.) Living Dangerously, Heroism and Euthanasia -- 9.) Varieties of Suicide -- 10.) Digging Up the Past: Explorations in the Philosophical Archaeology of Suicide -- 11.) Liberal and Conservative Positions on Suicide -- 12.) Autonomy, Paternalism and Intervention in Suicidal Acts -- 13.) Justifying Intervention 1: Arguments from Autonomy -- 14.) Justifying Intervention 2: Self Defence and the Defence of Others

**Lengua:** English

**Copyright/Depósito Legal:** 56566647 232161283 252912083 456011203 474414571 646709603 756859495  
888495427 961638754 962649841 1157149185 1259082506

**ISBN:** 0203426371 electronic bk.) 9780203426371 electronic bk.) 0415106052 hard) 0415106060 pbk.)  
9786610066889 6610066884 9780415106054 0415106052 9780415106061 0415106060 1134845073  
9781134845071 1134845081 9781134845088 0203298985 9780203298985 1280066881 9781280066887

**Materia:** Suicide- Moral and ethical aspects Suicidal behavior Suicide, Attempted Suicide- Aspect moral  
Comportement suicidaire PHILOSOPHY- Ethics & Moral Philosophy. Suicidal behavior. Suicide- Moral and  
ethical aspects.

**Enlace a formato físico adicional:** Print version Fairbairn, Gavin. Contemplating suicide. London ; New York :  
Routledge, 1995 (DLC) 94021094

**Punto acceso adicional serie-Título:** Social ethics and policy series

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