

Il caso Indi Gregory: i limiti del “*child’s best interest*” e una nuova prospettiva sull’etica heideggeriana dell’abbandono

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The Indi Gregory Case: the Limits of the “Child’s Best Interest” and a New Perspective on the Heideggerian Ethics of Abandonment

Abstract: This essay intends to analyze the recent case of Indi Gregory, the English child who died because of the mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome, and to better investigate the concepts of “child’s best interest”, “harm” and “futility”, often at the basis of judges’ decisions to interrupt any vital treatment in such cases. In this occasion, a more general analysis will also be conducted regarding the limits of normativism and the paradigm change carried out by some key elements of the recent Italian legislation on the topic, such as the Law 219/2017, which came into the debate with the involvement of the Italian government in the matter. Finally, it will be explored the possibility to place the Heideggerian ethics of abandonment alongside the normative concept of best interest, in order to ontologically promote an ethics of abandonment of cares and enhance the relational aspect of Care.

Keywords: Indi Gregory, Child’s best interest, End of life, Heidegger.

notizie di POLITEIA, XL, 154, 2024. ISSN 1128-2401 pp. 43-65