

# I medici non obiettori sono medici “neutrali”?

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*Are Non-objecting Physicians “Neutral” Physicians?*

*Abstract:* The bioethical debate on conscientious objection usually swings between a focus on the defense of the moral integrity of the treating physician and the rights of patients to obtain all legally available services. However, both approaches appear to be unsatisfactory: if the former risks running into some contradictions, the latter ends up unduly considering non-objecting physicians as “neutral” physicians. This cannot be taken for granted since, for some patients, they have committed deeply immoral acts. These considerations prompt me to propose an alternative defense of conscientious objection that rests upon another right: the patient’s freedom to choose their treating physician.

*Keywords:* Conscientious objection, Abortion, Doctor-patient relationship, Freedom of choice.

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