

# Detailed contents

*List of exercises*

*List of figures*

*About the authors*

*Preface to the third edition*

*Introduction*

## Part I: Foundations of Values and Ethics

### 1 What are values and ethics?

What do we mean by 'values'?

Values and value systems

Values and social work

Personal values

Societal values

Values in tension

What do we mean by 'ethics'?

### 2 Moral philosophy

Thinking about right and wrong

Duties and rights

Consequences

Virtues

Care

Structure and power

### 3 Values and religion

Social work values and religion: historic links

Recognising religious needs

The multi-faith context

Challenging religion

Limits of the 'scientific' model

### 4 Values and politics

Implementing political decisions

Politics and policy

Radicalism and social change

xi

xiii

xv

xvii

xix

1

3

3

5

6

10

13

15

16

19

20

22

23

27

29

31

35

37

38

40

42

44

47

48

53

55



5	Realism as an ethical principle	59
	About realism	60
	Realism about practice decisions	61
	Realism and language	64
	Realism at the core of ethical thinking	66
	<b>Part II: Values and Ethics in Practice</b>	<b>69</b>
6	Being professional	71
	Values at work	71
	Professionalism	74
	Professional ethics	77
	Real-world challenges	79
	Limitations of cases and codes	81
7	Uses and abuses of power	83
	Social work power	83
	Facing our power	85
	Care and control	86
	Abuse and misuse of power	88
	Recognising powerlessness	92
8	Risk and blame	95
	Risk and responsibility	97
	Trust and trustworthiness	99
	A nameless virtue	101
9	Self-determination and privacy	103
	Self-determination	103
	Positive and negative freedom	104
	The pressure to control	105
	A sense of responsibility	109
	Consumer choice and service-user power	111
	Individual or group	113
	Privacy and confidentiality versus information sharing	114
10	Respect or oppression	119
	What is oppression?	120
	Levels of oppression	122
	Not simply victims	123
	The internalisation of oppression	124
	Oppression, objectification and 'respect for persons'	126
	Oppression and discrimination	128
	Minimal intervention	129



11 Limited resources	133
Practitioners and managers	135
Different philosophies	137
Who should decide?	139
Equity or advocacy?	140
Working within limits	141
Challenging shortfalls	141
12 Difference and diversity	145
Difference and discrimination	146
Being discriminating and being discriminatory	147
Dimensions of difference	148
In praise of diversity	160
2.1 Why is it wrong to kill?	21
References	163
Index	173
1.1 Your position on religion	36
1.2 Service users' religious beliefs	38
1.3 Challenging religious beliefs	43
4.1 Assessing Lantent's age	49
4.2 Discharging Ruby from hospital	52
4.3 The company doctor and the toxic chemicals	55
6.1 Words, intentions and deeds	61
6.2 Working with Lisa: realism about professional relationships	66
6.3 You and your doctor	72
6.4 Questionable behaviour by social workers	73
6.5 What do we mean by 'unprofessional'?	75
7.4 Common pitfalls	76
4.5 On the receiving end of a child protection investigation	78
6.6 Being 'sectioned'	78
6.7 Common ethical dilemmas	80
7.1 You and power	88
7.2 The misuse of power	90
7.3 Lisa's home-alone children	93
8.1 Anna's dilemma	95
8.2 Anna and the angry daughter	98
9.1 Concerns about Mrs Moore's safety	100
9.2 Working with the Jennings family	102
9.3 Liam's unpaid rent	104