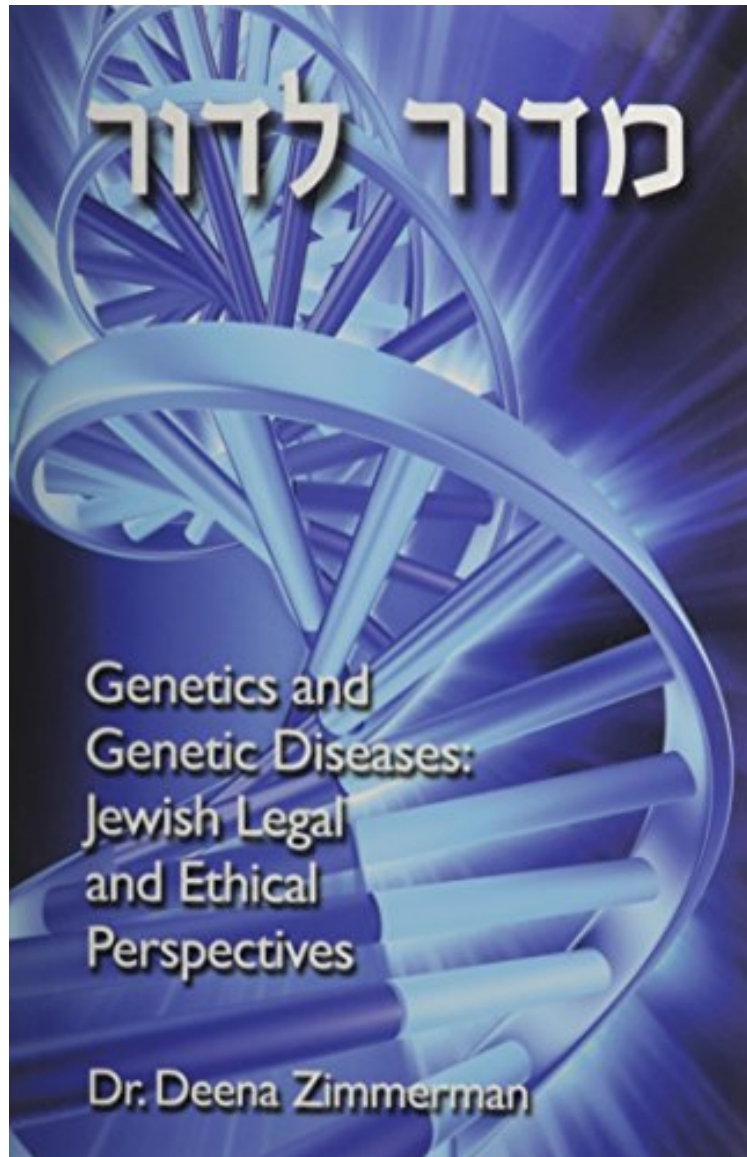


(Download) Genetics and Genetic Diseases: Jewish Legal and Ethical Perspectives

Genetics and Genetic Diseases: Jewish Legal and Ethical Perspectives

Deena R. Zimmerman

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Deena R. Zimmerman : Genetics and Genetic Diseases: Jewish Legal and Ethical Perspectives before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Genetics and Genetic Diseases: Jewish Legal and Ethical Perspectives:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The author reveals information about human genetics and

JudaismBy Israel DrazinThe subject of genetics is on TV daily, especially in crime shows. It is a subject that fascinates people who are interested in uncovering their ancestry, where their ancestors came from. Among Jews some are interested if their ancestors were "kohanim, "priests, descendants of Moses' brother Aaron, or whether their ancestors were Ashkenazic or Sephardic Jews, from Germanic or Spanish countries. But, more importantly, they are also interested in finding out if their family suffers from genetic diseases common to Jews and how Jewish laws and ethics address these conditions. Dr. Deena Zimmerman is an expert in this area. The book is divided into three sections. The first part discusses "The Science and Ethics of Genetics" in 112 pages. Dr. Zimmerman addresses subjects such as what is genetics, the connection between genetics and Judaism, gender selection, abortion, and consanguineous marriages. Her second section of over 150 pages lists and discusses dozens of diseases with a Jewish association, such as Tay-Sachs. Her third section of about 40 pages contains practical suggestions to parents who are struggling how to cope with children having these conditions, including how to deal with the death of a child. She includes a three page "Index of Jewish and Halachic Concepts" and indicates the pages where they are discussed.

This book provides Jewish families with an up-to-date overview of human genetics, its impact on health, and Jewish legal issues. The focus is on genetic diseases most common in those of Jewish descent, including preventative strategies and support of families affected. It is written in a fashion that is understandable by all readers. The book brings much needed order and compassion to the field of Jewish genetics. Dr. Zimmerman received her M.D. from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and is an expert in Jewish law.