Prof. Dr. Helen Kohlen works as a sociologist in the field of nursing ethics and palliative care. She is also trained as a nurse and worked in intensive care as well as in community care. She holds a chair for Care Policy and Ethics at the Philosophical-Theological University of Vallendar in Germany and is Adjunct Professor at the University of Alberta, Edmonton (CAN).

Her work is characterized by the focus on social, cultural and gender inequalities in the practical fields of medicine and nursing. She attaches great importance to the systematic new and further development of theoretical foundations in nursing science, not least by means of inter-disciplinary and multi-professional team-approaches. Currently she is leading a research project on Cultural Diversity and Conflicts in Health Care, (TONGUE: www.pthv.de/tongue) funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Since 2010 she has been leading an Action Research Project on how to move clinical ethics framed by a care ethical design.

She is a member of the editorial board of the journal Nursing Ethics and the German journal of Medical Ethics. She is also an active member of the Care Ethics Research Consortium (CERC) and the scientific research committee of the German Hospice- and Palliative Care Association.

Helen Kohlen and Joan McCarthy are editors of the book Nursing Ethics. Feminist Perspectives: https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030491031