

Genetic Engineering: Arguments

Is it safe? GM foods may be toxic or cause allergies

Does it work? Cloning Dolly took 277 attempts

What are the other effects? GM crops could destroy world markets and impoverish farmers from poorer countries

Does it involve killing? Roman Catholics think PGD (screening embryos) is murder

Is it natural? Many see 'pharming' as an unnatural thing to do, regardless of the benefits

What are the benefits? One goat producing ATryn gives as much anticoagulant as 90,000 blood donations

Are there un-known risks? Xenotransplantation could lead to retroviruses mutating from animals to diseases that attack humans

How is our autonomy affected? Farmers who want to stay GM free cannot if others don't, due to cross pollination and contamination

How is the environment affected? All things are interconnected. If you change crops, insects will die out, then the birds that feed on the insects etc. etc.

What about God? Is reproductive cloning 'playing God'?

What about Human Rights? Saviour siblings are being created to be used, which is an abuse of their rights.

Is this a slippery slope? If we allow people to use PGD to prevent diseases, will we end up with 'designer babies' where people choose every feature possible for their children?

Does it cheapen humanity? Using embryos in PGD and therapeutic cloning treats humanity as a commodity.

Who should regulate this technology? Free market? Government? Professional bodies?

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