

REASONS FOR AND AGAINST HUMAN CLONING

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Recently, the controversy around human cloning has received a lot of news coverage; yet unsurprisingly, a clear and thorough examination of both sides has been lacking from the news media.

Basically, human cloning is the artificial process of making a genetic twin of a person. This means a person could literally become the parent of their own twin or the parent of anyone's twin. Human cloning has already become illegal or restricted in a variety of degrees in several countries, thus scientific research has been greatly reduced throughout the world. Furthermore, there has been quite a bit of legislation proposing to completely ban human cloning, and a large amount of legislation proposing to allow human cloning. In the article the list of the reasons for and against human cloning is available.

Reasons for allowing human cloning:

Infertility: Though if a couple is unable to conceive a child, then there are plenty of children in orphanages and foster care that could use a home and family. Adopting an orphan is much easier, cheaper, virtuous, and safer solution than trying to clone a human being, not including helping a child in need.

Genetic Illness: If a person chooses not to have a child that is genetically their own because of a risk with passing on a genetic illness, then again adoption is a better solution for the reasons mentioned previously.

Vanity: Bringing a child into the world should not be about our vanity or an attempt at indirect immortality, because we are all unfairly biased for ourselves and our genes.

Super Humans: Selecting the most perfect genetic donor in someone's opinion, whether it is Albert Einstein, Michael Jordan, or some other above average person, changes the norms of society. Imagine a world with fewer variations of people who are either super-geniuses or super-athletes. On the other hand, advances in science and technology would grow at an even faster rate and more people would be healthier. This purpose can be judged as a sufficiently good enough reason for allowing human cloning; however, intentionally making a better race of people is very suspicious.

Curing Diseases: The growing scientific field known both as regenerative medicine and as therapeutic cloning, allows thousands of lives

to be saved from cloning human cells, tissues, and even organs. Cloning human body parts guarantees a genetic match to prevent organ rejections and also does not require immunosuppressive drugs. However, this research is still in its infancy and requires a lot more time, effort, and money before it matures into saving a lot more people. If human cloning is completely banned, then this type of research would be stopped and a lot of lives would be lost. Therefore, this type of human cloning should also be allowed.

Body Replacements: One of the stranger reasons for cloning humans is for a complete body replacement. This is only science fiction now, yet it may some day be a possibility in the distant future. It has been always unethical to kill another human being to save another person, so the cloned human body intentionally designed for replacement can be used, for example, for replacing an aged body with a new body.

Nevertheless, just because science gives humanity the ability to do something does not mean that humankind should do it. The reasons for doing any action must outweigh the reasons for not doing the action, therefore cloning a person should not be because of capability.

Reasons for banning human cloning:

Playing God: Mankind is already "playing" God when we cure diseases, fly airplanes, create nuclear energy, or use any advanced technology.

Religion: It is impossible for anyone to know the true intentions of God. There is an opinion that God in any religion has not directly banned human cloning. Though the Catholic Pope is against cloning, but some scientists find that at odds with being fruitful and multiplying.

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