






ETHICS OF GENETIC MODIFICATION

EDWARD ALSTON

WHAT IS BEING COVERED

Human genetic modification - manipulation of the human genome through a technique known as gene editing.

- CRISPR / Gene Therapy
 - **Designer Babies**
- Eliminating Genetic Diseases
- Stronger humans
- Unlocking the human genome
- How does this affect society
 - **Lost of individuality**
 - **Potential new diseases**
 - **Unintentional elimination of unique people in society**



“I predict we will abolish suffering throughout the living world. Our descendants will be animated by gradients of genetically pre-programmed well-being that are orders of magnitude richer than today's peak experiences.”

➤ **David Pearce, The Hedonistic Imperative**

SCI-FI CONNECTION

Orphan Black, a show about cloning and gene manipulation, uses real science and theories to explore ethical questions.

- Patenting human genetic material
 - Legal issues
- Effects and errors of germline modification



RESOURCES

Kurzgesagt – In a Nutshell. “Genetic Engineering Will Change Everything Forever – CRISPR.” YouTube, uploaded by Kurzgesagt – In a Nutshell, 10 Aug. 2016, www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAhjPd4uNFY&t=68s.

Dvorsky, George. “The Real-Life Science Behind Orphan Black.” Io9, Gizmodo, 16 Dec. 2015, io9.gizmodo.com/the-real-life-science-behind-orphan-black-1694765437.

Cussins, Jessica. “On Cyborgs and Gene Editing: Lessons from Orphan Black.” Center for Genetics and Society, 1 June 2016, www.geneticsandsociety.org/biopolitical-times/cyborgs-and-gene-editing-lessons-orphan-black.



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