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Bio-Lit

12 May 2011

Designer Babies

As a parent, many say that seeing their child happy is the best feeling in the world. Happiness is considered to be the 'perfect' state of mind for a human. Each child has their own unique talents, characteristics, and place in our society. Choosing to alter a child's genetic makeup can erase all their sense of importance in this world. If everyone was identical, it would seem like a universe full of robots and machines; destruction would most likely follow shortly. Medical institutes should not allow the creation of super babies because individuals will not be unique, a superior race might be created, and it could cause religious uprisings.

"Until just a few years ago, making a baby boy or a baby girl was pretty much a hit-or-miss affair. Not anymore. Parents who have access to the latest genetic testing techniques can now predetermine their baby's sex with great accuracy" (Times Magazine 1). If we choose to Genetically alter our children, a whole new universe will be created. Humans will not be unique and everyone will look the same. Imagine a world full of mirrors, no matter where a person looked, someone identical was staring right back at them. Humans may start to realize that they are not really humans anymore; they are simply computer generated and altered by science. There is also a

point in which individuals have the right to decide what is done to their body.

Manipulating their personal rights as a human is unjustified.

Normal children may feel of less importance in this world. "*Critics point out that the level of biodiversity in the human race will plummet, which can result in long term disaster*" (Johnson 1). For parents, they should not want to create a 'perfect' child because morally, just seeing your offspring happy should be enough. By creating designer babies, our society may also be introduced to a whole new level of racism. People are choosing to stay away from this process in order to remain unique as humans.

There is also the controversy that the creation of designer babies may lead to a superior race. A superior race would eventually lead to a downfall in the human population; they could be too powerful to control. Not only can you pick what your child looks like, you can also choose characteristic such as strength. On another level, a superior race may be treated better than normal people. Even though 'good' DNA is replacing 'bad' DNA in a designer baby, there is an uncertainty that their body may become immune to some medicines.

In every debate, there is sure to be a religious aspect thrown into the topic. The creation of designer babies could lead to religious uprisings. On the basis of 'God created everything in this world how it is suppose to be' is on everyones minds. No matter what people believe in, science and religion are at a constant battle. Scientists might believe the creation of these babies is the right thing to do to fix genetic diseases, whereas, religious believers might think it is a sin.

There are certain reasons that the creation of super babies should be allowed. Scientists could use this technique to limit birth defects, remove defective DNA while baby is still in the womb, and prevent diseases spreading through family generations. *“Genetic screening can reduce the baby's chances of being born with several serious diseases like Down Syndrome, Facial hypercholesterolemia, and rare blood disorders” (Johnson 1).* In some cultures, choosing the gender of their child would be to their advantage since they typically want males to pass on the family name. Unfortunately, this procedure could also be quite expensive. The only reason designer babies should be allowed is to help families prevent genetic diseases from being passed on to their children. Creating a designer baby, in order to avoid a genetic disease, can save parents emotional, financial, and physical burden in the long run.

The creation of designer babies is a huge controversial topic. *“Life is entering a new phase in its history. We are seizing control of our own evolution” (Gregory Stock 1).* Controlling our own evolution could turn out to be our biggest downfall. Some people agree it should be used only to help treat genetic diseases, whereas, others believe that they should also be allowed to use advances in technology to design their children's characteristics. On a religious basis, people may choose that the creation of designer babies should be completely illegal; God creates you how you are suppose to be and in a sense, people could view you as “playing god”.

The creation of designer babies has an equal amount of pro's and con's. Using advances in technology to choose your child's characteristics is a foolish decision, but to help cure genetic diseases in a family line is a justified reason to create a designer

baby. Medical institutes should not allow the creation of super babies because individuals will not be unique, a superior race might be created, and it will cause religious uprisings.

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