

Cloning: A Beginner's Guide
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Discussion Questions

- 1) In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration has recently recommended allowing products from cloned animals into the food supply. Do you agree or disagree with this decision? Why?
- 2) Although cloning technology has been studied for over ten years, most cloned animals still fail to develop to term and go on to lead healthy lives. Do you believe this relatively high failure rate is inherent to cloning or that it will eventually be overcome? Why?
- 3) What arguments for and against human reproductive cloning do you find most compelling?
- 4) Assuming human reproductive cloning was as safe as traditional reproduction, do you think it should be banned? Why or why not?
- 5) How do you think ethical concerns raised by cloning and embryonic stem cell research should be incorporated into the policymaking process?
- 6) What, if any, do you believe are the implications of the unusual policy environment governing cloning and embryonic stem cell research, where rules in some countries are significantly more restrictive than rules in other countries?
- 7) Do you think women should be permitted to donate eggs to therapeutic cloning research? If so, should they receive compensation for these donations?
- 8) Assuming it was technologically feasible, what would you think of the idea of requiring cows destined for human consumption to be genetically engineered to be resistant to mad cow disease?
- 9) What impact, if any, do you believe continued advances in cloning technology will have on the growing inequities in society (both within developed countries and between developed and developing countries)?
- 10) What worries you most about cloning technology? Why?
- 11) What excites you most about cloning technology? Why?
- 12) If you were a cloning scientist, what area of research would you choose to study?