

# Should We Encourage Human Cloning?



Cloning is one of the most controversial issues in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Also referred to as asexual reproduction, cloning implies creating genetically modified biological units such as cells or tissues. Cloning has been successfully introduced and implemented on plants, animals, and even humans. It seems that the benefits of cloning are obvious, however, there is an opposing view stating that human cloning is dangerous and should never be encouraged.

Without any doubts, cloning is the greatest medical breakthrough in the 21st century. However, there exist many concerns, both biological and ethical, which lead to passionate discussions regarding the benefits and shortcomings of human cloning.

As for the biological concerns, the researchers claim that if cloning is actively practiced, the diversity will simply disappear, which will negatively influence the progress. Also, the studies provide information about the spread of pathogens among cloned beings. Indeed, there are numerous risks emerging from human cloning. For instance, the mutation of genes can lead to the birth of an abnormal child. All these pieces of evidence prove that human cloning is very dangerous and risky. Moreover, this procedure is also accompanied by the myriads of unknown risks. The clones born after this procedure suffer from various

implications or die prematurely (Ashcroft, 2007). As such, any attempt to clone humans can turn into a disaster.

From an ethical point of view, cloning is rather irresponsible. One of the arguments refers to the case when the cloned sheep died right after birth. Some of the clones are born malformed and suffer a lot before their deaths. Therefore, it will be unacceptable to use cloning to give birth to malformed children and doom them for sufferings. Moreover, it is obvious that the clones that were created in order to substitute a particular person will live under the constant pressure having to live their lives in accordance with the social expectations. In other words, human cloning can cause an imbalance in a society, which can lead to numerous terrible consequences.

Human cloning does not deal with human feelings and emotions. It undermines the value of human relationships leaving the space only for reproduction. What is more, the clone of a child won't have an emotional relationship with parents. The basic concept of the family will be destroyed since parents won't treat their cloned child as a part of themselves.

One more reason why human cloning is a bad idea is that it is a serious threat to identity and individuals' uniqueness. Therefore, the opponents of human cloning warn that it is the threat to the whole human race since it allows treating humans as objects underestimating their value.

Another ethical concern arises when people begin to "pretend God" and

play with human lives, which is unacceptable in any religion. As such, the opponents of human cloning suggest not to spend an enormous amount of money on the experiments but improve the quality of life of people living on Earth.

In conclusion, it should be noted that although human cloning is a huge step towards human progress, there are various pitfalls, which should be taken into serious consideration when talking about copying of human beings. The demerits of human cloning significantly override its potential benefits, as it is obvious that these experiments lack biological and ethical background. For instance, the parents of cloned children won't be able to treat them as individual personalities and there are many chances that these children will be treated as just biological products. All the arguments mentioned above allow claiming that the idea of human cloning should be abandoned.