

To ensure delivery, please add info@geneticsandsociety.org to your address book or contacts.



CENTER FOR GENETICS AND SOCIETY

BIOPOLITICAL VIEWS & NEWS

January 8, 2015

WEBSITE

BLOG

ABOUT US

PRESS ROOM

DONATE

SUBSCRIBE

Please also follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Google+](#), [RSS](#) and on our [website](#) and [blog](#).

[Save the Date: Talking Biopolitics with Nathaniel Comfort and Alexandra Minna Stern](#)

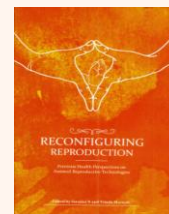
Friday, February 27, 11am PT / 2pm ET / 19:00 GMT

Please mark your calendars for a live — and lively — online conversation with Alexandra Minna Stern and Nathaniel Comfort. Both have thought deeply, and written widely, about the history and future of human genetics and eugenics.



[Reconfiguring Reproduction: Feminist Health Perspectives on Assisted Reproductive Technologies](#)

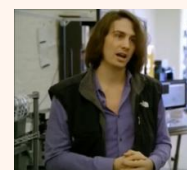
This newly published collection, edited by Sama Resource Group for Women and Health, includes "US Feminists and the Fertility Industry," co-authored by CGS's Marcy Darnovsky and Our Bodies Ourselves' Judy Norsigian.



[Bad Boy Scientism](#)

by Pete Shanks

Austen Heinz of Cambrian Genomics has been spouting provocative opinions to get attention. And it seems to be working, from his point of view.



[Two Neuroscientists Who Get It Right](#)

by Jessica Cussins

Two UC San Diego neuroscientists have created a "Roadmap to a New Neuroscience." It is a status-quo-shifting kind of amazing.



[The Future of Conception](#)

by Jessica Cussins

Numerous writers took advantage of the ending year to look broadly at just how drastically we are changing the process of baby-making, and what it all means for society.



[CIRM 2.0](#)

by Pete Shanks

The California Institute for Regenerative Medicine is attempting a "reboot" in an effort to accelerate the development of cures, though its critics remain skeptical.



NEWS

▶ [Controversial DNA Startup Wants to Let Customers Create Creatures](#)

[Quotes CGS's Marcy Darnovsky]

by Stephanie M. Lee, *San Francisco Chronicle*

With the latest technology and generous funding, a growing number of startups are taking science and medicine to the edge of science fiction.

▶ [Discovery, Guided by Morality](#)

by John Markoff, *The New York Times*

A neuroscience lab ponders the purpose of its research.

▶ [Commercialized Conception Casualties: "Brave" Baby Making?](#)

by Mirah Riben, *Huffington Post*

Hiring surrogates and purchasing sperm, eggs, or others' leftover frozen embryos, have become accepted as choices on a menu of options.

▶ [The High-Tech Future of the Uterus](#)

by Katherine Don, *The Atlantic*

Following the recent success of the world's first uterus transplant, scientists are pursuing the new frontier of the bioengineered womb.

▶ [How the Rise of Commercial Surrogacy is Turning Babies into Commodities](#)

by Clair Achmad, *The Conversation*

This year the international spotlight turned with full force on cross-border commercial surrogacy.

▶ [Gender Selection in a Brave New World](#)

by John Kass, *Chicago Tribune*

Jayne and Jon Cornwill, an Australian couple, recently came to America with a bit of trouble. What the Cornwills wanted was a little girl.

▶ [23andMe's New Formula: Patient Consent = \\$](#)

by Antonio Regalado, *MIT Technology Review*

How a consumer genetics company amassed a lucrative database of willing research participants.

▶ [Every Patient a Subject: When personalized medicine, genomic research, and privacy collide](#)

by Jennifer J. Kulynych and Hank Greely, *Slate*

Current norms permit a scientist who gets a sample of blood, tissue, or saliva to sequence and use that genome without the donor's consent, or even without her knowledge.

▶ [Commercial DNA Testing May Cause Harm, Scientific Studies Show \(If You Read Through to the Study Limitations at the End\)](#)

by Cecile Janssens, *Huffington Post*

After the FDA urged 23andMe to stop marketing its personal genome test in the US, the world's largest direct-to-consumer genetics company relaunched the test in Canada and the United Kingdom.

▶ [State Courts Strike Blows to Criminal DNA Collection Laws in 2014—What to Look for in 2015](#)

by Jennifer Lynch, *Electronic Frontier Foundation*

The "slippery slope toward ever-expanding warrantless DNA testing" is already upon us. But recent state cases provide reason for hope.

▶ [Pharmacogenomics and the Biology of Race](#)

by Myles Jackson, *The Huffington Post*

Why is race the privileged category used by biomedical researchers in understanding human diversity?

▶ [White? Black? A Murky Distinction Grows Still Murkier](#)

by Carl Zimmer, *The New York Times*

There is a long tradition of trying to draw sharp lines between ethnic groups, but our ancestry is a fluid and complex matter, geneticists say.

▶ [Ten Years In, California's Stem Cell Program is Getting a Reboot](#)

by Michael Hiltzik, *Los Angeles Times*

The new president of California's stem cell agency is planning to launch CIRM 2.0, a comprehensive reboot of the program.

▶ [Scientists Use Skin Cells to Create Artificial Sperm and Eggs](#)

by Ian Sample, *The Guardian*

Researchers in Cambridge converted adult skin tissue into precursors for sperm and eggs.

▶ [Breaking: New FDA Draft Guidance Views Fat Stem Cells As Drugs](#)

by Paul Knoepfler, *Knoepfler Lab Stem Cell Blog*

With a new document released, the FDA is more clearly on a path to regulate dubious stem cell clinics in the US.

▶ [Scientist Who Had Claimed Stem Cell Breakthrough Resigns From Japanese Research Institute](#)

by Martin Fackler, *The New York Times*

A government-backed research institute accepted the resignation of one of its highest-profile scientists after she failed to replicate earlier stem cell research results.

▶ [2014 in Biomedicine: Rewriting DNA, Decoding the Brain, and a GMO Paradox](#)

by Antonio Regalado, *MIT Technology Review*

From genetically modified foods to gene therapy, 2014 was a big year for rewriting biology.

▶ [Time for the Social Sciences](#)

Nature Editorial

Governments that want the natural sciences to deliver more for society need to show greater commitment towards the social sciences and humanities.

▶ [Most Types of Cancer Largely Down to Bad Luck Rather Than Lifestyle or Genes](#)

The Guardian

Random DNA mutations are largely responsible for two thirds of adult cancers but poor lifestyle can add to the "bad luck factor," according to a new study.

DONATE NOW
SECURE DONATIONS
BY GROUNDSPRING.org