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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[You're Invited : Talking Biopolitics with Aaron Panofsky and Osagie Obasogie](#)

Thursday, April 30, 11am PT / 2pm ET / 18:00 GMT

Please mark your calendars for a live online conversation with Aaron Panofsky about his new book [Misbehaving Science: Controversy and the Development of Behavior Genetics](#). Aaron will be interviewed by CGS's Osagie Obasogie.



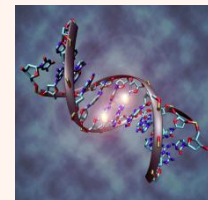
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CGS COMMENTARY

[Public interest group calls for strengthening global policies against human germline modification](#)

[Press statement]

"No researcher has the moral warrant to flout the globally widespread policy agreement against altering the human germline."



["It's a Baby Farm."](#)

by Jessica Cussins

A new documentary uncovers the shocking realities of unregulated commercial surrogacy in India.



[The Rights of Donor-Conceived Offspring](#)

by Naomi Cahn, *Biopolitical Times* guest contributor

While their parents' choices affect them as children, donor-conceived children grow up, and many become curious about their origins. The law's tight focus on the parent-child relationship excludes legal questions relating to donor-conceived adults.



[Racial Health Disparities: It's Inequality, Not Genes](#)

by Jessica Cussins

A review of genomic research on racial health disparities in heart disease finds it has made "little or no contribution to our understanding." A new article in *The Atlantic* puts that in social, political, and historical context.



[Seeking Your Input: Survey on Egg Retrieval](#)

by Gina Maranto, *Biopolitical Times* guest contributor

We are surveying women's knowledge and attitudes toward egg retrieval to yield critical insights into how best to frame health information intended to enable women to make informed choices.



NEWS

[Critics Lash Out At Chinese Scientists Who Edited DNA In](#)

▶ [Human Embryos](#)

[Quotes CGS's Marcy Darnovsky]

by Rob Stein, *NPR*

For the first time, scientists have edited DNA in human embryos, a highly controversial step long considered off limits.

▶ [Chinese Gene-Editing Experiment Creeps Out Scientists](#)

[Quotes CGS's Marcy Darnovsky]

by Maggie Fox, *NBC News*

The work raises the specter of eugenics — making designer babies, or trying to "improve" the human race.

▶ [DNA Editing in Mouse Embryos Prevents Disease](#)

[Quotes CGS's Marcy Darnovsky]

by Sara Reardon, *Nature News*

"It is a bit of a slippery slope — if you start allowing any editing tool, you open a Pandora's box of the possibility to edit anything."

[Lightly Regulated In Vitro Fertilization Yields Thousands of](#)

▶ [Babies Annually](#)

[Quotes CGS's Marcy Darnovsky]

by Michael Ollove, *The Washington Post*

Both the federal government and the states have given the multi-billion-dollar industry a wide berth, which makes this country very much an outlier compared with the rest of the developed world.

▶ [Chinese Scientists Genetically Modify Human Embryos](#)

by David Cyranoski & Sara Reardon, *Nature News*

Rumours of germline modification prove true — and look set to reignite an ethical debate.

▶ [Editing Human Embryos: So This Happened](#)

by Carl Zimmer, *National Geographic*

A quick guide to the history behind this research, what the Chinese scientists did, and what it may signify.

▶ [Genome Editing: Time to Ask the Tough Questions](#)

by Silvia Camporesi, *The Huffington Post*

It is a bit disheartening that we seem not to have made any progress when it comes to governing science in 40 years, and that we refer to Asilomar as the exemplar of practice of governing science.

▶ [The Conflict Between Human Rights And Biotechnological Evolution](#)

by Srinivas Raman, *Eurasia Review*

Genetically modifying humans has the potential to violate human rights and freedom and could possibly lead to catastrophic consequences for the human race if legalized and encouraged.

▶ [Masters of our Future: Genetic Tweaking with Mitochondrial Donation](#)

by Max Gorynski, *Shout Out UK*

It raises a question that itself provokes as much awe as anxiety: can we really modify our nature, and to what end?

▶ [CRISPR Patent Fight Now a Winner-Take-All Match](#)

by Antonio Regalado, *MIT Technology Review*

Lab notebooks could determine who was first to invent a revolutionary gene-editing technology.

▶ [New Genetic Tests for Breast Cancer Hold Promise](#)

by Andrew Pollack, *The New York Times*

A Silicon Valley start-up is threatening to upend genetic screening for breast and ovarian cancer by offering a test on a sample of saliva that is so inexpensive, most women could get it.

▶ [Personalizing Cancer Treatment With Genetic Tests Can Be](#)

Tricky

by Richard Harris, *National Public Radio*

Genetic tests also spot a lot of ambiguous information, and that can sometimes lead people into clinical trials that are wrong for them.

▶ [DNA Testing Is a Slippery Slope](#)

by Russell Saunders, *The Daily Beast*

A media baron set off a firestorm on Twitter after recommending blood tests for “everything available.”

▶ [California Unveils 'Precision-Medicine' Project](#)

by Erika Check Hayden, *Nature News*

The \$3-million state initiative will coordinate with a national effort to promote individualized patient treatment.

▶ [Prenatal Testing, Cancer Risk and the Overdiagnosis Dilemma](#)

by Ainsley Newson and Stacy Carter, *BioNews*

Should we be reporting results if we don't know whether those results have any potential to benefit the patient?

▶ [Fix the Flaws in Forensic Science](#)

by Eric S. Lander, *The New York Times*

A Justice Department review found that F.B.I. testimony about hair identification was fundamentally flawed in 96% of the cases it examined. Of those defendants, 33 received the death penalty and nine have been executed so far.

▶ [A NASA Scientist Is Behind the 'My DNA Was Planted' Viral Craigslist Ad](#)

by Kari Paul, *BuzzFeed News*

The goal was to get people thinking about whether criminals will someday be able to genetically engineer themselves out of a guilty verdict.

▶ [Colorado Bill Would Add DNA Testing for Eight Misdemeanor Convictions](#)

by Noelle Phillips, *The Denver Post*

"The notion the government gets to keep your genetic code in perpetuity is frightening."

▶ [Genes Don't Cause Racial-Health Disparities, Society Does](#)

by Jason Silverstein, *The Atlantic*

Researchers are looking in the wrong place: White people live longer not because of their DNA but because of inequality.

▶ [German regulator puts UniQure gene therapy appraisal on](#)

hold

by Ludwig Burger, *Reuters*

An adviser for biotech drugs to the European Medicines Agency said that Glybera lacked efficacy.

▶ Commercial Surrogacy Should be Legalised, Family Court Chief Justice Diana Bryant Says

by Bridget Brennan, *ABC* [Australia]

Two disturbing cases of child abandonment in India and Thailand should force the Federal Government to act.

▶ Fresh Surrogacy Concerns Over Boy Abandoned in India

by Judith Ireland, *Sydney Morning Herald*

Another set of Australian parents abandoned their baby son, born through surrogacy in India in 2012.

▶ Journalist Tells Sad History of NC Eugenics Program

by John Drescher, *News & Observer*

For years the sterilization program was considered a forward-thinking approach to prevent those who were institutionalized or on welfare from having children.

▶ The Printed Organs Coming to a Body Near You

by Heidi Ledford, *Nature*

From kidneys to hands, 3D printers are churning out made-to-order bones and rudimentary organs.

▶ Markingson case: University of Minnesota can't regain trust under current leadership

by Arne H. Carlson, *MIT Technology Review*

We will not see meaningful reform of research on human subjects so long as leaders responsible for years of denials and stonewalling remain in charge.

▶ Cloning a Punishable Offense

Arab News [Saudi Arabia]

Experiments or research in human cloning is an offense punishable by law and any violation means a fine and six months in jail.

▶ Reality Check: Is Sex Crime Genetic?

by Emily Underwood, *Science Magazine*

A new study suggesting that genes play a major role in sex crimes has skeptics concerned.

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