

Topic: Genetic Cloning in Humans

Skeleton Model of Rogerian Argumentation

CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC: Genetic cloning: The clinical utilization of STEM cells to create new organisms that aren't naturally conceived. Natural in this context refers to any reproduction that occurs without assistance from a trained specialist.

Specifying Vocabulary:

- Human Clone: copied genes
- Human: the real deal genes

Debate Sides:

- Side One: Genetic Cloning is aye-okay
- Side Two: Genetic Cloning is not okay

Side One Reasons:

- A -Cloning enables testing on an organism that is more closely aligned with the human genome. Therefore, it is one step up from animal testing and the limitations of animal testing.
- B -No more selective service. We have clones!
- C -Organ donors not necessary. We have clones!

Side Two Reasons:

- A -Where are the ethics?
- B -Bidding war is on.
- C - Bodily autonomy?

Thesis Statement/Claim: In contemporary society, the employment of human genetic cloning is unethical and will inevitably lead to destructive patterns.

Claim with a win-win solution: In contemporary society, the employment of human genetic cloning should be restricted to specific instances and projects that work to better an individual rather than create a new one.

[Intro.] In the last two decades, genetic cloning has surfaced in scientific and psychological research in an attempt to improve the understanding of the human genome and strategies necessary to prolong and increase living standards. (PV- scientific and psychological research demonstrate the improvements that accompany genetic cloning).

[Acknowledgement of Opposing View] Many individuals and researchers believe that genetic cloning can enhance product/pharmaceutical testing because clones more closely align with the human genome. Further, human cloning could be a useful military strategy. Lastly, many claim that the cloning of humans could revolutionize the process of organ transplants and develop the evolving world of medical science.

[Our Viewpoint] While product testing might be improved with the use of human clones, it questions a code of ethics and undermines definitions of what qualifies as “human.” Furthermore, the use of human clones in a selective war reinforces a division between human clones and humans, implicitly and explicitly dividing the two.

[Common Ground] While the complete re-creation of an entire human inevitably leads to ethical debates, the use of human cells to create organs or other biological components would revolutionize scientific advancements without compromising the full essence of humanity.

[Compromise] Although some claim that human cloning for testing purposes and for warfare is “advancement,” the most ethical route for progress begins with small-scale cloning and utilization of genetic copies to enhance human livelihood instead of compromising the current categorization of humanhood.