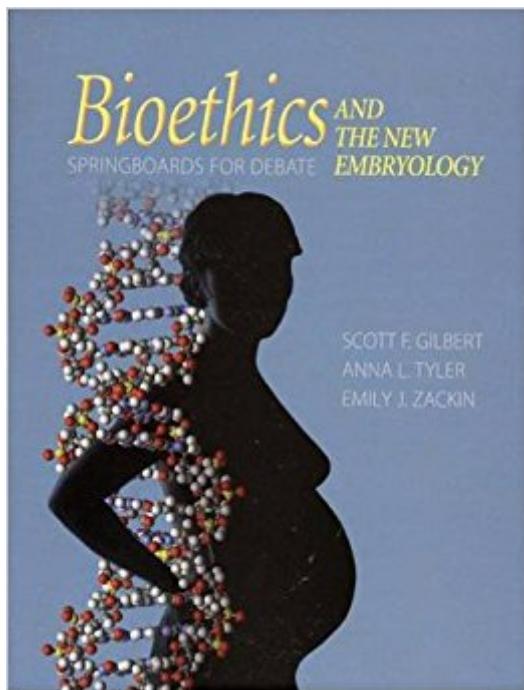


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Bioethics And The New Embryology: Springboards For Debate



Synopsis

Our ability to alter the course of human development ranks among the most significant changes in modern science. But even if we can do such things, should we? Under what conditions should certain procedures be permitted or forbidden? Do we want to support the research that might make such procedures possible? This book presents enough science so readers can make an informed analysis of the issues consistent with their ethical views. This book is available on its own and packaged with other W.H. Freeman titles. If you are interested in packaging it, please contact your local W.H. Freeman Representative.

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Customer Reviews

What good advice from Thomas Huxley! These days everyone seems to have an opinion about everything, especially about stem cells and Darwinian evolution. In light of advances in our technology that allow manipulation of human reproduction and the end of life, we as a Society are reexamining our ethical positions on the subjects of life and death. Too often our judgments about the ethics of reproduction, medical treatments and dying are made without knowledge of the basic biology underlying these big issues- information that might help us decide if we have the right to alter the course of human development. Nor do we know the philosophical and religious arguments on both sides of these issues. Scott Gilbert and colleagues have done us all an enormous service by providing the information needed to make judgments that are based on knowledge and not just emotions. Bioethics and the New Embryology was designed to be springboards for discussion. In

seven units with two chapters each, these authors discuss a series of questions, including when does human life begin?, Should new reproductive technologies be regulated? Should we choose the sex of our children? Should we allow human cloning? Should we use stem cells as spare body parts? Should we modify the genes of our offspring? Should animals be used for research and under what circumstances? For each question, there is a chapter discussing the biology involved, and this is followed with another chapter discussing the political, religious or ethical issues in a balanced fashion. No answers to the dilemmas are provided, only the means to arrive at them. Highly readable - written at the level of an entering college freshman - and full of marvelous photographs - some previously found only in medical school text-books.

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