

Email Submission: Martha Paitson

With reference to an article I read about CRISPR and proposed deregulation of gene-altering technology:

The biggest problems with these technologies that occur to me are (1) keeping even MORE people alive to breed and overpopulate, (2) the obvious widening of the gap between the haves and havenots: there will be those who can afford to modify their children and those who cannot.

Worst of all is (3) the impact of all this on our beautiful, beleaguered planet. Ultimately, every aspect of our environment will be managed, or need to be... Clever monkeys (a few of us), but we still leave piles of poo and shredded discards wherever we go. Can we modify homo sapiens to stop doing THAT??

I do appreciate how fun, how exciting all this is. It's also job creation for some of our 'best and brightest' (yeah right). Perhaps the whole concept could be shipped off to Mars with Elon Musk, where it could prove to be a great idea. And maybe come back to bite us in the butt in another millenium, who knows.

Anyway, for what is worth, my opinion is that we should tighten the reins on genetic alteration, not loosen them.

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