Elements in the Problems of God
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GOD AND HUMAN GENETIC ENGINEERING

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God and Human Genetic Engineering

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Abstract: Science and Religion have often intersected on issues. However, no set of current scientific advances is more promising and problematic for religious (or nonreligious) individuals than those that fall under the heading of Human Genetic Engineering, as these advances have the potential not only to cure human disease, remove undesirable human traits, and enhance desirable human traits but also to pass on these modifications to future generations. This Element is an introductory overview of these advances, the ethical issues they raise, and the lines of reasoning, including religious lines of reasoning, used to support or challenge these advances. The author’s goal is to suggest a way of assessing these advances that will give us, whether religious or not, a solid basis for deciding these issues for ourselves and engaging in respectful, constructive dialog with others.

This Element also has a video abstract: www.Cambridge.org/Basigner

Keywords: genetic engineering, god and science, changing humans, CRISPR, modifying DNA

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