Appendix N – Genetic Engineering

Q101: Do you approve or disapprove of the use of cloning for each of the following purposes? To establish embryos banks from which prospective parents could select a child with genetic characteristics they desire.

	Percentage
Approve	16
Disapprove	80
Not sure	4

Time/CNN, November 1993, N=500.

Q102: Do you approve or disapprove of the use of cloning for each of the following purposes? To make it possible for societies to clone and reproduce large numbers of individuals with genetically desirable traits.

	Percentage
Approve	6
Disapprove	89
Not sure	5

Time/CNN, November 1993, N=500.

Q107: Do you approve or disapprove of the use of cloning for each of the following purposes? To make it easier for scientists to screen embryos for inherited abnormalities.

	Percentage
Approve	40
Disapprove	52
Not sure	8

Time/CNN, November 1993, N=500

Q160: It is now possible for scientists to make a test tube baby that is guaranteed to be free of certain genetic diseases. Do you think this is a good use of genetic engineering, or do you think this is going too far?

	Percentage
Good thing	26
Going too far	67
Don't know/no answer	7

CBS News, February 15-17, 1994, N=1193.

Q162: If you were planning to have a child and could choose various traits your baby would have, do you think you would or would not choose to... rule out a genetically transmitted fatal or crippling disease?

	Percentage
Would choose	60
Would not choose	35
Not sure	5

Time/CNN, December 17-18, 1998, N=1031.

Q163: If you were planning to have a child and could choose various traits your baby would have, do you think you would or would not choose to... determine the child's sex?

	Percentage
Would choose	11
Would not choose	88
Not sure	1

Time/CNN, December 17-18, 1998, N=1031.

Q164: If you were planning to have a child and could choose various traits your baby would have, do you think you would or would not choose to... ensure greater intelligence for the child?

	Percentage
Would choose	33
Would not choose	65
Not sure	2

Time/CNN, December 17-18, 1998, N=1031.

Q165: If you were planning to have a child and could choose various traits your baby would have, do you think you would or would not choose to... influence the child's height or weight?

	Percentage
Would choose	13
Would not choose	86
Not sure	2

Time/CNN, December 17-18, 1998, N=1031.

Q166: If you were planning to have a child and could choose various traits your baby would have, do you think you would or would not choose to... influence other physical characteristics of the child such as hair or eye color?

	Percentage
Would choose	10
Would not choose	89
Not sure	1

Time/CNN, December 17-18, 1998, N=1031.

Q103: New technology in science and medicine may allow couples who want to have a baby to pick and choose the baby's genetic characteristics such as hair color or the risk for certain diseases. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose picking and choosing an unborn baby's characteristics using these new technologies?

	Percentage
Strongly favor	5
Somewhat favor	13
Somewhat oppose	21
Strongly oppose	58
Don't know	2
No answer	2

Virginia Commonwealth University Life Sciences, September 2002, N=1000

Q167: Would you approve or disapprove if parents were offered a way to use PGD to:

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know	Refused
a. Choose the sex of their child	28	68	4	*
b. Make sure their baby does NOT have a serious genetic disease	74	22	4	*
c. Make sure their baby has desirable characteristics such as high intelligence and strength	22	72	5	*
d. Make sure their baby does NOT have a tendency to develop a disease like cancer when he or she is an adult	60	33	6	*
e. Make sure their baby would be a good match to donate his or her blood or tissue to a brother or sister who is sick and needs a transplant	69	25	5	1

Genetics and Public Policy Center, October 15-29, 2002, N=1211.

Q168: When you think about these topics (genetic testing, in vitro fertilization, genetic engineering, and cloning), which of the following, if any, do you think is the greatest benefit? That parents can improve the chances their baby will be healthy, that parents can improve the chances their baby will have the features they want, that the overall cost of health care in America will be less, that certain genetic diseases can be wiped out forever, or don't you think any of these are benefits?

	Percentage
That parents can improve the chances their baby will be healthy	27
That parents can improve the chances their baby will have the features they want	2
That the overall cost of health care in America will be less	8
That certain genetic diseases can be wiped out forever	41
Don't think any of these are benefits	12
It depends/mixed (vol.)	5
Don't know	4
Refused	1

The Genetics and Public Policy Center, October 15-29, 2002, N=1211.

Q104: Would you say that changing a baby's genetic characteristics for cosmetic purposes such as eye or hair color is making appropriate use of medical advances or is it taking medical advances too far?

	Percentage
Appropriate use	4
Taking medical advances too far	94
Don't know	2
No answer	0

Virginia Commonwealth University Life Sciences, September 2003, N=1003.

Q105: Would you say that changing a baby's genetic characteristics to reduce the risk of serious diseases is making appropriate use of medical advances or is it taking medical advances too far?

	Percentage
Appropriate use	41
Taking medical advances too far	54
Don't know	4
No answer	2

Virginia Commonwealth University Life Sciences, September 2003, N=1003.

Q106: New genetic techniques may prove able to slow down the aging process in human beings. How likely would you be to use genetic therapies if it meant you could live longer – very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely, or not at all likely?

	Percentage
Very likely	14
Somewhat likely	23
Not too likely	25
Not at all likely	36
Don't know	1
No answer	0

Virginia Commonwealth University Life Sciences, September 2003, N=1003.

Q169: Suppose scientific discoveries make it possible for parents to select genetic traits such as intelligence, height, or artistic talent when planning to have a child. Which comes closer to your view – parents should be allowed to select the traits they wish their child to have or parents

should not be allowed to select the traits for their child and the child should be born with whatever traits it would naturally have?

	Percentage
Should be allowed to select traits	8
Should not be allowed to select traits	88
No opinion	4

CNN/*USA Today*, January 23-25, 2003; N= 1000.

Q170: Scientific discoveries may some day make it possible for parents to select genetic traits such as intelligence, height, or artistic talent when planning to have a child. If you were having a child, and this were possible, would you select the traits you wanted your child to have, or let the child be born with whatever traits he or she would naturally have?

	Percentage
Select traits	7
Be born with whatever traits naturally have	91
No opinion	2

CNN/*USA Today*, January 23-25, 2003; N= 1000.