

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2018

Reading questions #20

Due Tue, July 3

1) Read Leon Kass's "Ageless Bodies, Happy Souls" (chapter 37 of AAHN). What is the therapy vs. enhancement distinction that Kass mentions with respect to things like genetic engineering? Lets say that we are talking about a case of manipulating the genes and future development of embryos. Do you think this is morally okay in "therapy" cases? What about "enhancement" cases? If you think it is sometimes okay and sometimes not, what is the difference between when it is okay and when it is not? (You might want to think about a few cases like parents who want their kids to not have tay-sachs disease, be taller, have blue eyes, have perfect pitch (so as to be especially musically gifted), or be especially physically strong.

2) After reading the chapter, come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed. This could be something that the chapters forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapters.