

A large, abstract watercolor splash in shades of teal, purple, and red, set against a white background. The splash is irregular and textured, with the colors blending into each other.

# Designer Babies

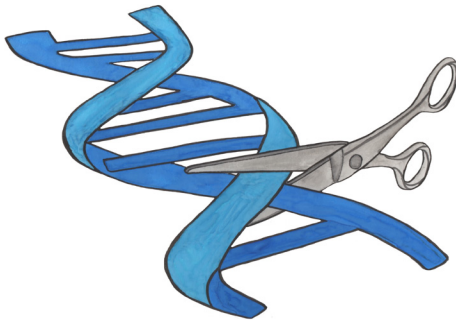
By: Emily Margetta, Sara Nelson,  
Daniella Mendoza, and Gerardo Ambriz

## Table of Contents

What is CRISPR?.....	2
Gerardo Ambriz	
Introduction to Designer Babies.....	3
Daniella Mendoza	
Poems and Art.....	4-6
Sara Nelson and Emily Margetta	
Moral Issues Created By Designer Babies.....	7-8
Daniella Mendoza	
How CRISPR Should Be Used.....	9-10
Gerardo Ambriz	

## What is CRISPR?

CRISPR is a hunt and cut system used to edit genes. Cas9 is a protein created by CRISPR to hunt the desired DNA sequence. Cas9 tracks down the DNA sequence that is a bad gene and cuts it off from the DNA strand. A genetic sequence called "RNA guide" looks for the DNA sequence that is destroyed and merges with it where there is a piece missing. Then there is a new genetic sequence that is used to make a new protein.



## Introduction to Designer Babies

Designer babies are babies who are genetically engineered in vitro for selected traits. These children can have the traits and characteristics the parent desires. In addition, parents can select for gender and various disease immunities.

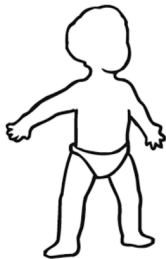
### *Super Baby Menu*

#### *Eye Color*

<i>Blue eyes</i> .....	\$200
<i>Brown eyes</i> .....	\$200
<i>Green eyes</i> .....	\$200

#### *Hair Color*

<i>Black</i> .....	\$200
<i>Blond</i> .....	\$200
<i>Brunette</i> .....	\$200



#### *Height*

<i>Tall</i> .....	\$200
<i>Medium</i> .....	\$200
<i>Short</i> .....	\$200

#### *Characteristics*

<i>Athletic</i> .....	\$200
<i>Intelligent</i> .....	\$200
<i>Charming</i> .....	\$200

## Perfection is Designer

They say I was made in a lab  
That I was modified for my  
parents liking  
But that isn't good or bad

I don't get sick  
And there is no possibility of  
me getting a disease  
I like that

I think the other kids are  
jealous  
Because of how I was made to  
look

They tell me I'm perfect  
Perfect hair  
Perfect skin

Sometimes I feel bad  
I feel bad  
Because not everyone  
has this  
Not everyone can be  
so...  
Perfect.

It isn't my fault  
My parents wanted this  
But does it limit what I  
can do?  
Everyone holds these  
expectations  
That everything I do  
must be perfect  
Because I am perfect.

## A Flawless Future

He is a gem  
Designed for everyone's  
liking  
Perfection.

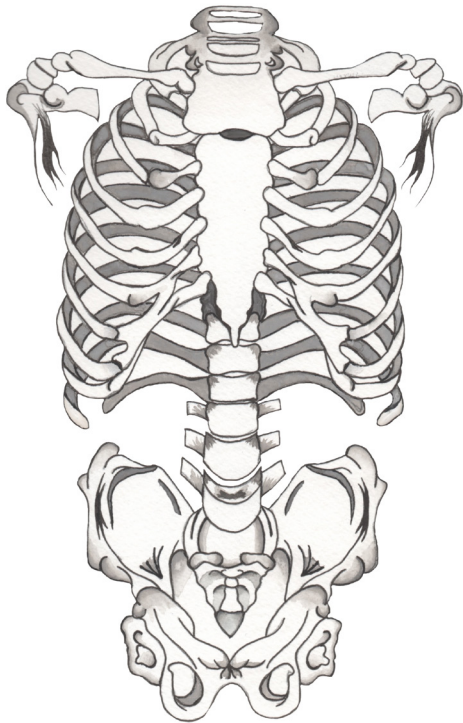
The way he move  
The way he speaks  
The way he thinks  
Perfection.

There is never the need to  
worry  
Illness will never ail him  
In fact  
There will never be  
anything wrong with him

The boy was made  
He was meant to be  
perfection  
Almost inhuman

But still  
He is cherished by all  
And he is destined for  
greatness

Soon  
There will be more like  
him  
And all of his perfection  
The dawn of a new age  
The age of perfection.



## **Moral Issues Created by Designer Babies**

### **Jeremy Bentham**

According to Jeremy Bentham, an act is moral if it benefits the majority. From this perspective, designer babies will maximize happiness because it allows our future generation to be healthier and free of diseases. Not only will they be immune to diseases, but will carry genetic characteristics that will allow them to retain information quicker, have musical talent, or be athletic if the parent chooses. Designer Babies will succeed in life which may create an economic divide.



## **Immanuel Kant**

Immanuel Kant, a German philosopher from the 18th century, believed only a categorical imperative can make an action moral. For an act to be moral it must treat others how you would want to be treated and treat others as ends. In the case of designer babies, we are not treating the child with respect, because the parents are using the child as a means to their happiness. This act also cannot be universalized because in choosing the child's characteristics we are privileging our interests over the child's.

## **How CRISPR Should Be Used**

CRISPR should be used to cure people's diseases. It should not be used to improve already healthy people. In other words, it shouldn't be used to enhance already healthy people. If that happens, some people wouldn't be able to afford the technology and they would be considered inferior to those who were treated. They would be looked at as a "perfect race," which would create social and political inequalities.



