

Questions on the PBS/Nova film “Cracking your Genetic Code”

Movie website: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/body/cracking-your-genetic-code.html>

1. In your words, what is meant by the phrase “Genetic Code”?
2. In the movie they obtained DNA from different sources, what were those sources? What other sources would be preferable? What sources would you avoid? Why?
3. One of the people in the movie said that if they tried they might “fail,” and that would be a good thing? Who said that and what did he mean?
4. They talked about a disease called CF—what does that stand for? What part of the body does it affect? How much does the treatment for CF cost?
5. There were several notable people in this movie, name three, their titles/jobs and discuss one of them in detail.
6. What do you predict for the future regarding people’s Genetic Code?
7. There were two sides to the debate, what were they? Discuss each side in detail.
8. Answer this question, “I tested positive for a genetic mutation that raises the risk of breast cancer. Should I tell my teenage daughter?” (Source: <http://hastingshardquestions.org/genetic-testing>)

Pick one of these two questions and write a one-page paper on it (may be handwritten):

9. There were several companies represented in the movie, pick one of the following and discuss in detail what they offer. <http://www.knome.com/> and <https://www.23andme.com/>
10. What role, if any, should the government have regarding people’s genetic codes? Should the government have access to that? Should private companies share this information with each other?

Sources/More information:

<http://www.thehastingscenter.org/>

<http://hastingshardquestions.org/conversation-leaders-bioethics-and-genetics>

Questions on the PBS/Nova film “Cracking your Genetic Code” v.2

1. Does everyone have a Genetic Code?

2. What is DNA?

3. In the movie they got the DNA from different sources, which of the following were those sources?
 - A. Sweat
 - B. Clothing
 - C. Blood
 - D. Skin

4. They talked about a disease called Cystic Fibrosis. What part of the body does it affect?

5. Who is Francis Collins?

6. Answer this question on a separate piece of paper, “I tested positive for a genetic mutation that raises the risk of breast cancer. Should I tell my teenage daughter?” (Answer should be about 1 page long—handwritten is OK).
(Source: <http://hastingshardquestions.org/genetic-testing>)

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