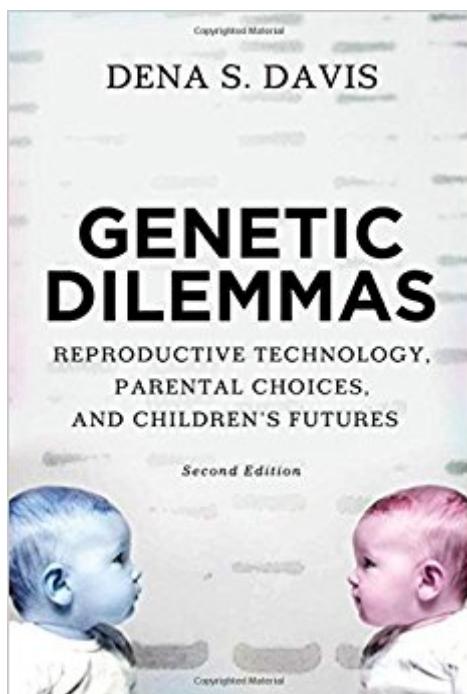


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Genetic Dilemmas: Reproductive Technology, Parental Choices, And Children's Futures



Synopsis

What limits the genetic choices parents make for their children? Is it okay to select the sex of our children, or for deaf parents to select deaf children? In this second edition of *Genetic Dilemmas*, Davis argues that parental reproductive autonomy should be limited by respect for the future autonomy of the children created by these measures. Praise for the first edition: "A thoughtful, timely and comprehensive look at genetics in the modern era by a recognized scholar of both their legal and humanistic implications. An excellent read!" -R. Alta Charo, Professor of Law and Medical Ethics, University of Wisconsin- Madison. "Dena Davis has been the most consistent and important voice insisting that we take seriously the concept of each child's right to an open future, and what respecting that right would mean for new technologies in genetics and reproduction. This engaging new book is the work of a thoughtful and humane scholar, and deserves a broad readership." -Thomas H. Murray, President of The Hastings Center. "Dena Davis offers an engaging, informative and provocative argument in *Genetic Dilemmas*. Her primary accomplishment is to draw much-needed attention to the interests of the child in reproductive decision-making...she has succeeded admirably." -Mary Terrell White, Medical Humanities Review. "People now face a dizzying array of choices about reproduction-from sex selection to cloning, from prenatal screening to genetic enhancement. In this engaging and path-breaking book, Dena Davis intelligently and compassionately explores the often-ignored impact of these choices on the children that are created and the society in which they will be raised." -Lori Andrews, Professor of Law, Chicago-Kent College of Law

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Professor, School of Law, Cleveland State University

As a whole, Davis' book is a well-articulated assessment of some of the largest ethical dilemmas surrounding reproductive genetics. She is gracious to those who may disagree with her, and shows a great deal of compassion and understanding to parents who must wrestle with these issues. Many of the concerns Davis raises in *Genetic Dilemmas* are very important to consider since the technologies surrounding them have already become (or are soon-to-become) common practice. She is also to be commended for her efforts to separate these issues from the controversial questions surrounding abortion, and to instead examine the implications of these technologies on their own. However, since many critics of abortion find the practice of embryo wastage from in vitro fertilization and pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (IVF & PGD) to be analogous to abortion, they will dismiss Davis' acceptance of some parents use of these technologies.

Dena Davis gives a very thorough, readable update to her argument that concern for the child's "open future" should guide the use of genetics in reproductive choices. This is one of the central arguments in contemporary gen-ethics, and is very accessible in this slim volume.

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