

### **Autonomy vs. Social Order**

- Social implications of the identity testing cases
- Second practical case study

### **Case discussion, identity testing**

- I'm not the father
  - ☑ During divorce, father learns he is not biological parent of children
  - ☑ Should he have to pay child support?
- I want to know if I am the father
  - ☑ Man agrees to help married woman get pregnant
  - ☑ Several years later, want to know if he is biological father
  - ☑ Should testing be ordered
- Basis for decision making?

### **Basic steps in moral reasoning**

- 1. Clarify the issue or problem
- 2. Identify the stakeholders
- 3. Collect the facts
- 4. Sort out the moral arguments
- 5. Draw conclusions
- 6. Test your conclusions

### **Stakeholders and interests?**

Party	Case 1	Case 2
Mother	➤ support for children	➤ preserve family
Biological father	➤ preserve privacy	➤ relations with child
De facto father	➤ avoid payments	➤ preserve family
Siblings	➤ keep family together	➤ preserve family
Society	➤ child welfare ➤ social mores	➤ child welfare ➤ social mores

### **Basic tensions**

- Several tensions involved:
  - ☑ Between biological parents
  - ☑ Biological vs. de facto parents
  - ☑ Parents vs. children
  - ☑ Individuals vs. society
- Two primary stakeholders
  - ☑ Individuals ~ what each person feels is just or right
  - ☑ Society ~ what is just or right in the larger context of humans living with one another
- What would society want in these cases?

### **Social Order**

- How should society be organized?
  - ☑ Tyranny/Dictatorship ~ rule of the most powerful
  - ☑ Oligarchy ~ rule of the an elite few
  - ☑ Plutocracy ~ rule by the wealthiest
  - ☑ Democracy ~ rule by all
- What should be the goal of social organization
  - ☑ Welfare of the state or commune (Communism)
  - ☑ Social welfare of all (Socialism)
  - ☑ Capital development, free markets (Capitalism)
  - ☑ Further religion (Theocracy)

### **Case #1, Implicit Social Assumptions**

- Pay child support even if not biological father
  - ☑ Welfare of child takes precedence
  - ☑ Family is not solely defined by biology
- Not required to pay child support
  - ☑ Individuals are responsible for their own actions
  - ☑ Responsible only for biological children
  - ☑ Extra-marital relationship should not be condoned

### **Case #2, Implicit Social Assumptions**

- Child should be tested
  - ☑ Biological parent is important
  - ☑ Emphasis on biological basis of family
- Child should not be tested
  - ☑ Importance of the social family
  - ☑ Right to privacy

### **Social assumptions change over time**

- At one time society believed:
  - ☑ Children borne out of wedlock have no rights (bastards)
  - ☑ Women who conceived outside of marriage should be punished (stoned to death)
  - ☑ Should not tell adopted children who their real parent(s) is/are
  - ☑ Men could have extra marital affairs, women could not
- What is the foundation of moral decision making?
  - ☑ Moral principles and moral theory
  - ☑ Social principles and social theory

### **Access to digital information?**

- Digital privacy
  - ☑ Cable TV only in criminal cases
  - ☑ Music records, get a clerks signature
- Clash
  - ☑ Individual are protecting privacy/autonomy
  - ☑ Society is protecting its welfare
- What are the social assumptions?
- Does this apply to genetic information?

### **Practical Case Study**

- Grows out of teaching and outside service
- Academic
  - ☑ History of science/science policy
  - ☑ History of universities/UM
  - ☑ Research integrity
- Service
  - ☑ Member, research committees, UM
  - ☑ Part-time, Office of Research Integrity
    - Develop research programs
    - Develop educational resources

### **Introduction to RCR**

- Rules of research complex
- Most researchers not formally introduced to RCR
- Intro, overview of basics of responsible research



### Misconduct major problem

- Not common
- Serious when happens
- Can end careers
- Wastes resources
- Harms subjects



### Other practices

- Data management
- Conflict of interest
- Authorship
- Peer review
- Collaboration
- Mentoring
- and . . .



### Use of animals

- Experimental design
- Human care and use
- Proper review



### Use of humans

- Informed consent
- Proper review
- Basic principles
  - ☑ Beneficence
  - ☑ Respect
  - ☑ Justice
- Case involves human subjects



### Dealing with other humans

- How should we treat one another
  - ☑ Life in general, wide range of rules/laws
    - should not arbitrarily for no justifiable reason take another life
    - Do not permit violence, bodily harm, etc.
    - Cannot take someone else's property
  - ☑ Medicine ~ how should physicians treat patients?
    - Guidelines set out in codes of ethics
    - Best known in medicine is [Hippocratic Oath](#)

### World War II

- New guidelines were written after WW II to deal with war-related crimes
- Nazis had conducted medical experiments on Jewish prisoners
- Widely agreed that human experimentation had to be regulated
- Conference in Nuremberg Germany produce the [Nuremberg Code](#)
- Expanded/modified in Belmont Declaration of Helsinki, 1964

### **Post WW II problems**

- Early 1970s, focus of activity shift to government
- Public attention raised by a number of reported abuses of human subjects
  - ☑ *Tuskegee experiment - syphilis study begun in 1930s*
  - ☑ *Willowbrook experiment*
  - ☑ *Radiation testing*

### **Government response**

- Congressional response, beginning mid 1970s, leads to two key sets of guidelines
  - ☑ *Belmont Report (1979)*
  - ☑ *Common Rules (45 CFR 46) (1981)*
- [Belmont Report](#) (1979)
- [Common Rule](#) (1990)

### **Case presentation**

- College course on genetics
- Instructors decide to use experiment available on line to teach basic techniques
  - ☑ Isolate mtDNA
  - ☑ Amplify
  - ☑ Send for sequencing
  - ☑ Analyze results
- 3rd time around, decide to do sequencing locally
  - ☑ Sequencing lab says need IRB approval
- What should the instructors do?