**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?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Case 1</th>
<th>Case 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>support children</td>
<td>preserve family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio father</td>
<td>preserve privacy</td>
<td>relations with child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De facto father</td>
<td>avoid payments</td>
<td>preserve family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siblings</td>
<td>keep family together</td>
<td>preserve family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society</td>
<td>child welfare</td>
<td>child welfare</td>
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<td></td>
<td>social mores</td>
<td>social mores</td>
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</tbody>
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**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 born 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)

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?