

## Chair

- 1) Before the debate starts, ask the group what they think about human artificial twinning. Spend 5 minutes discussing it, making sure that only one person speaks at a time and everyone is listened to.  
Hold a vote: unless you already know everyone is either completely for or completely against human artificial twinning, you should also hold a vote on 'Under which circumstances is it acceptable?'
- 2) Give one character sheet to each person. Ask each person to read out the 'introduction' to their character in turn.
- 3) Start the debate! Make sure only one person speaks at a time (this might be easier to monitor if a person has to stand to speak) and that everyone who wants to make a point is given the opportunity.  
You also have to make sure that one character isn't talking much more than the others – perhaps make a tally-chart of the number of times each character speaks.  
No points should be solely opinion – they should all be backed up by facts. Here is the fuller picture of some points if anyone questions them during the discussions.
  - Inbreeding (anti-cloning campaigner): The Chillingham Cattle have been inbreeding for centuries and are still healthy, so it doesn't necessarily lead to extinction (or maybe the effects depend on the species?).
  - Embryo destruction (pro-life campaigner): Embryos have to be used, stored or destroyed within 14 days of fertilisation: at this point the embryo has no nervous system, can still split to form twins, can't develop further outside the womb, and isn't yet usually seen as a human being with full human rights in Judaism, Islam and liberal Christianity.
  - Pre-implantation genetic screening: Only damages or destroys the embryo in such a small number of cases that it isn't seen as statistically different.Stop the debate once everyone has argued all their (relevant) points or when you have only 10 minutes to complete the activity in. Everyone can now come out of character.
- 4) Hold another vote. Does everyone now agree with a particular character's opinion? Spend another 5 minutes discussing how and why peoples' opinions have changed.
- 5) And finally, how do this group's opinions compare to the experts? Read out the following paragraph, and in the time left ask the group if they agree with these recommendations. You could hold another vote – how many people were surprised by the official decision, and do they think it's a responsible decision, that it's too limited, or not limited enough?

'The US National Advisory Board on Ethics in Reproduction met to discuss artificial twinning in humans, covering most of the issues included in this debate, and published their conclusions in 1994. They recommended that the *only* case in which artificial twinning should be used was to allow couples undergoing IVF to have twins in which both embryos should be implanted at the same time. There was one other possible scenario, also for IVF couples: that one embryo should be implanted and the other stored in case the first pregnancy did not result in a live birth; if the first pregnancy was successful the second embryo must not be used again by the same couple. As the board could not decide whether it was better for the embryo to be destroyed (either directly or used for stem cell research) or to be donated to another couple (meaning that identical twins could be born in different families), they recommended that this second scenario should not be allowed.'