Work Sheet for
Promise & Perils of Biotechnology: Genetic Testing

BEFORE VIEWING THE video, answer the following three questions:

1. What does genetic testing usually involve? ___________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

2. Who needs genetic testing? _______________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

3. What are some of the reasons for and against undergoing a genetic test?
   For: ______________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
   Against: __________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

After viewing the video, answer the remaining questions:

4. Now that you have seen the video, would you answer any of the above questions differently? Explain.
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________

5. If you had been in the same situation that Jennifer Jones was in, would you have wanted to be tested as she was? _____ Why or why not?
   ________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________
6. If you had taken the test and learned that you had the gene for Huntington’s disease, how would you have used the information?

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

7. If you had been in the same situation that Lily Ann Sholer was, would you have wanted to be tested as she was? _____ Why or why not?

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

8. If you had been in the same situation that Lily Ann Sholer was, would you have wanted your daughter to be tested also? _____ Why or why not?

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

9. Is there anything that you think Lily Ann and her daughter should do in addition to eating a low-fat, high-fiber diet and taking their medicine in order to lower their chances of having a heart attack?

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

10. Do you think it is fair that Lily Ann can not get insurance for Lora because of Lora’s genetic constitution? Explain:

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________
WORK SHEET FOR DEVELOPING A SET OF SHARED VALUES

A. My Personal List

Consider each of the items in the list below. If you think an item does not belong on the list, cross it out. If you think an item should be worded differently, write your preferred version in the space provided. If you think two items could be combined, cross one out and next to the other write your proposed combined version. If you think there are items that should be on the list but are not, add them on the blank lines at the bottom. Finally, when you think your list is complete put a number 1 to the left of the item on your list that you consider the most important, number 2 next to the second most important, and so on.

Respecting the rights and dignity of all others

Treating each person as an individual, rather than as just another member of some particular group

Promoting the welfare of those who are less capable of protecting their own interests than you are

Placing the interests of one’s own family above the interests of all others

Promoting understanding of human nature and of the world in which we live

Dealing with others as you would want them deal with you

Protecting others from unnecessary harm or pain

Telling the truth

Cheering for the hometown or school team

Allowing all persons who are able to do so to make the important choices that will affect their lives
Defending the right of people to be fully informed before making such choices

Lending a helping hand to those who are less privileged than oneself

Assuring that all people are treated fairly and equitably
WORK SHEET FOR DEVELOPING A SET OF SHARED VALUES

B. The Class List

As a class you should discuss all items on the original list and give everyone a chance to say which items they think should be changed and how. As the class comes to agreement about items that should be on the list, and how they should be worded, they should be written on the board. Then they should all be numbered from most important (1) to less important (higher numbers). When the class list is complete, copy it to your work sheet so that you will have a copy for future reference.

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WORK SHEET FOR ROGER PATTON’S DILEMMA

THE NUMBERS ON THE lines below refer to the questions posed on the previous page. Try to put yourself in Roger’s shoes as you consider each question. For each question indicate:

a. Whether you think there any ethical issues involved, and if so what they are;
b. Which shared value from the list you prepared in section B.1 is most important for Roger to consider with respect to that particular question;
c. What decision you think Roger will make if he takes that value into consideration adequately.

1. ______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________________________
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3. ______________________________________________________________________
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4. ______________________________________________________________________
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5. ______________________________________________________________________
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WORK SHEET FOR CAROL AND GEORGE FACE A TOUGH DECISION

1. List all of the options that you think the genetic counselor should have suggested that Carol and George should consider in addition to the two that are specifically given on the preceding page.

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
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______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

2. Write a carefully considered opinion regarding the ethical considerations that are raised by options (a) and (b) that are given on the preceding page. Try to justify your opinions in terms of the set of shared values that you and your classmates agreed upon on Work Sheet B.1.B. Then prepare to discuss your opinions with the class.

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