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| **Consequence of genetic engineering** | **Advantage** | **Disadvantage** |
| Genetic engineering borderlines on many moral issues, particularly involving religion, which questions whether man has the right to manipulate the laws and course of nature. |  |  |
| Disease could be prevented by detecting people/plants/animals that are genetically prone to certain [hereditary](http://www.biology-online.org/dictionary/hereditary) diseases, and preparing for the inevitable. |  |  |
| Animals and plants can be 'tailor made' to show desirable characteristics. Genes could also be manipulated in trees for example, to absorb more CO2 and reduce the threat of global warming. |  |  |
| Infectious diseases can be treated by implanting genes that code for antiviral proteins specific to each antigen. |  |  |
| Nature is an extremely complex inter-related chain consisting of many species linked in the food chain. Some scientists believe that introducing genetically modified genes may have an irreversible effect with consequences yet **unknown**. |  |  |
| Genetic Engineering could increase genetic diversity, and produce more variant alleles which could also be crossed over and implanted into other species. It is possible to alter the genetics of wheat plants to grow insulin for example. |  |  |

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