

Suggested answers to case study

1. Suggest TWO reasons which allow the Nashes to use this technique.

This can help to save Molly's life.

This does not cause any harm to the selected embryo.

(Any other reasonable answers)

2. Suggest TWO reasons which against the Nashes to use this technique.

This causes the problem of how to handle the embryos being screened out.

The sibling may suffer from psychological consequences after knowing that he/she is born to treat her sister's disease.

(Any other reasonable answers)

3. As a general consideration, can you list the criteria for deciding which genetic traits should be screened and which should not? Explain your answer.

YES/NO (teacher may discuss with the students about the reasons)

Traits should be screened (for reference only):

1. free of incurable diseases
2. traits that can save others life (like the case in the passage)

Traits that should not be screened (for reference only):

1. sex
 2. appearance
 3. disease that is not life threatening
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4. What regulations should be set for parents who want to hire this technique?

1. Only parents of certain disease carrier could hire this technique.
2. Only certain approved traits should be screened.
3. The genetic profile of the embryo should not be disclosed to parents.

(Any other reasonable answers)

5. How should we handle the embryos being screened with diseases? How should we handle the embryos screened healthy but not implanted into the mother's uterus?

Embryos screened with diseases: use for research purpose, develop methods of disease treatment (suggested answer only)

Embryos screened healthy but not implanted into mother's uterus: donate to infertile couples; store for further pregnancy (suggested answer only)

- 6. Not everyone can pay for the cost of having embryo screening, what problem it will bring to the society? Can you think of any solutions?**

Cause inequality between different social classes, heavy medical burden on low social classes may make their lives more difficult. (Suggested answer only)

Government subsidy/loans to high risk couples (other reasonable answers)

- 7. After genetic screening, the selected embryo will have a genetic profile. Who have the right to see this profile, its parents? Doctors? Insurance companies? Explain your answer.**

Should not disclose to anyone, as we should respect the privacy of the baby. Disclose to parents as baby is not a true independent individual. (Any answer with reasons)
