



Definition Genetic Reductionism — the view that all behavior is reducible to DNA, a sort of genetic determinism, the view that an individual’s future is set by their genes and cannot be changed.

Characters to Watch

Jerome Morrow (Vincent)

- What extremes does he go to in order to maintain his façade?
- God’s hand versus a Geneticist’s? Why do you think the film makers articulate his conception in this manner?

The Real Jerome Morrow

- How could a pre-determined “perfection” turn out to be a curse? Compare this to a Biblical anthropology (view of humanity) and a need for God and His grace.
- He had been engineered with everything he needed to get into Gattaca, except the desire to do so...Does this fit with a view of genetic reductionism?
- Do you see a message that is being communicated in Jerome’s Suicide?

Questions to Ask

Discuss the contrast and struggle between the first two quotes of the movie. What worldviews are at play?

Consider God’s handiwork; who can straighten what He hath made crooked? Ecclesiastes 7:3

I not only think that we will tamper with Mother Nature, I think Mother wants us to. Willard Gatlin



- When does man’s desire to ease pain and suffering go too far? Why is it a danger for man to “play God?”
- What do you make of the term “Invalid?” How could one judge who is and is not invalid? What standard would be used?

Would you think it a blessing or a curse if you or others could determine your future?

What if you could choose everything about your children, would you do it? Why or Why not?

Following Your Dreams

Discuss the theme of “Following your dreams despite any odds/obstacles” — What does this tell us about our nature as human beings?



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