

# Reilly Center releases its annual top 10 list of ethical dilemmas in science

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The John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values at the University of Notre Dame has released its fourth annual list of emerging ethical dilemmas and policy issues in science and technology for 2016. This list is designed to get people thinking about potential ethical dilemmas before controversial science or technology goes mainstream.

The Reilly Center explores conceptual, ethical and policy issues where science and [technology](#) intersect with society from different disciplinary perspectives. Its goal is to promote the advancement of science and technology for the common good.

The center generates its annual list of emerging ethical dilemmas and policy issues in [science](#) and technology with the help of Reilly fellows, other Notre Dame experts and friends of the center. Readers are encouraged to vote on the issue they find most compelling and in need of discussion at [reillytop10.com](http://reillytop10.com) and clicking on the vote button.

The [ethical dilemmas](#) and policy issues for 2016, presented in no particular order, are:

- CRISPR/Cas9—technology for gene editing.
- Rapid whole genome diagnosis—a way to record and catalog the genomes of newborns in order to improve disease detection.
- Talking Barbie—a new Barbie that wants to record conversations she has with your child.
- Digital labor rights—a discussion of the tension between

anonymous workers and anonymous bosses.

- Head transplants—a procedure that one doctor has promised to develop by 2017.
- Disappearing drones—drones that deliver payloads and then disappear into thin air without any indication of who sent it.
- Artificial wombs—the potential to grow a human fetus outside of a woman's body is creating concerns with women's rights advocates.
- Bone conduction for marketing—Verizon already has the technology to transmit ads to your brain through your bones, as well as your skin.
- Lethal cyber weapons—a potentially lethal computer program capable of causing a real explosion.
- Exoskeletons for the elderly—technology that aids labor but postpones retirement.

**More information:** [www.reillytop10.com/](http://www.reillytop10.com/)

Provided by University of Notre Dame

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