

Human Enhancement and Its Critics

Ioana Petre

Abstract

In this chapter, I have presented the main arguments that are usually formulated against human medical enhancement. In many cases, the moral attitudes arising from discussing the implications of enhancing technologies turned out to reveal certain ethical problems existing at deeper social levels and that were brought back to the surface by enhancement debates. In other cases, enhancements and their promises were misunderstood, distorted by the ‘yuck factor’ and, consequently, falsely problematized. Still in others, enhancing technologies appear to be the solution to the concerns raised by their very critics. I have analyzed here the strongest and most frequent objections brought against human enhancement. None of them was left unanswered and, as such, I conclude this chapter with the thought that human medical enhancement, in itself, does not constitute a reason for moral worry.