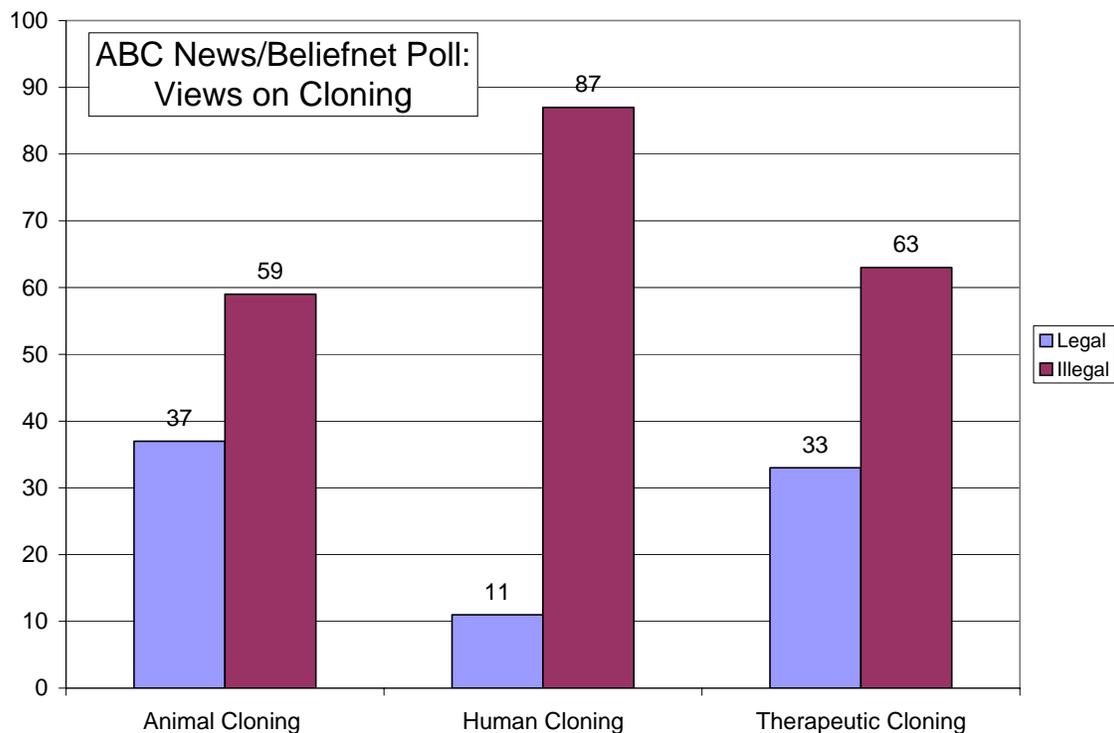


Majorities Oppose Cloning – Animal and Therapeutic Alike

While stem-cell research wins majority support in this country, cloning is another matter: Most Americans say it should be illegal – for animals, for humans, and even if it could produce medical breakthroughs.

Six in 10 say cloning animals should be illegal in the United States. Six in 10 oppose “therapeutic cloning,” the cloning of a human embryo to produce medical treatments. And 87 percent say it should be against the law to produce a child through cloning.

Most are undeterred, moreover, by policies elsewhere. Told that countries such as England allow therapeutic human cloning, more than eight in 10 Americans say it makes no difference in their view. Last month the House of Representatives passed a bill that would ban human cloning, therapeutic or otherwise, in this country.



This poll summarized two sides of the debate on cloning. For both animal and therapeutic cloning, supporters say medical breakthroughs could result. Opponents of animal cloning

say it's morally wrong and may produce offspring with genetic abnormalities; opponents of therapeutic cloning say it could lead to the creation of a cloned person. These arguments trump the suggestion that agricultural or medical advances may result.

RELIGION – Religious beliefs fuel much of the opposition: Those who oppose animal, human, and therapeutic cloning are most apt to cite their religious beliefs as the main factor in their opinion. In contrast, those who support cloning are most likely to cite their education as having the most influence on their view.

Evangelical Protestants are among the most likely to oppose all cloning, while those who profess no religion are among the most likely to support it. Non-evangelical Protestants are a bit more apt to support all cloning than the rest of the public. Catholics closely resemble the population at large.

GENDER GAP – Men and women differ markedly on the issue. Men are 24 points more likely than women are to support animal cloning – indeed men divide evenly on the question, while women oppose it by nearly 3-1. And men are 14 points more likely than women to favor human cloning for medical purposes.

Higher-income Americans are far more likely to favor legalizing cloning than are low-income people (a majority of those with an income over \$100,000 support animal and therapeutic cloning); and better-educated Americans are more supportive of cloning than are lower-educated people.

	Animal Cloning		Human Cloning		Therapeutic Cloning	
	Legal	Illegal	Legal	Illegal	Legal	Illegal
All	37%	59	11%	87	33%	63
Men	49	47	16	82	41	56
Women	25	71	6	93	27	70
<\$25k	17	81	8	92	23	75
\$100k+	64	34	20	80	55	44
Evangelical						
Protestants	19	79	3	95	18	79
Catholics	36	61	8	91	32	65
Non-evangelical						
Protestants	43	54	15	83	39	53
No religion	55	40	22	77	53	46

Majority opposition to any of these forms of cloning, finally, crosses political lines – taking in most Democrats, Republicans and independents alike.

METHODOLOGY - This ABC News/Beliefnet poll was conducted by telephone August 8-12, 2001, among a random national sample of 1,024 adults. The results have a three-point error margin. Fieldwork by TNS Intersearch of Horsham, Pa.

Analysis by Dalia Sussman.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com on the Internet, at:
<http://abcnews.go.com/sections/politics/PollVault/PollVault.html>

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Here are the full results (*= less than 0.5 percent):

2. On another subject, scientists have cloned animals, using basic genetic material from one animal to produce an offspring with the exact same genetic makeup. Supporters say cloning animals can lead to advances in medicine and agriculture. Opponents say cloning animals is morally wrong and may produce offspring with genetic abnormalities. Do you think it should be legal or illegal to clone animals in the United States?

	Legal	Illegal	No opinion
8/12/01	37	59	4

3. Scientists say it's also possible to clone humans, using basic genetic material from one person to produce a child with the exact same genetic makeup. Do you think it should be legal or illegal to clone humans in the United States?

	Legal	Illegal	No opinion
8/12/01	11	87	2

4. Some scientists want to use human cloning for medical treatments only. They would produce a fertilized egg, or human embryo, that's an exact genetic copy of a person, and then take cells from this embryo to provide medical treatments for that person. Supporters say this could lead to medical breakthroughs. Opponents say it could lead to the creation of a cloned person, because someone could take an embryo that was cloned for medical treatments and use it to produce a child. Do you think human cloning for medical treatments should be legal or illegal in the United States?

	Legal	Illegal	No opinion
8/12/01	33	63	4

5. Human cloning for medical treatments is legal in some other countries, such as England. Does this make you more likely or less likely to think it should be legal in the United States, or doesn't it affect your opinion on the issue one way or the other?

	More likely	Less likely	No difference	No opin.
8/12/01	7	10	82	1

6. What's had the most influence on your opinion on the issue of cloning - the views of your family and friends, things you've seen or read in the news, your education, your personal experience, your religious beliefs, your personal non-religious beliefs, or something else?

	Family/ friends	News	Educ.	Exper.	Relig. beliefs	Non-relig. beliefs	Other	No opin.
8/12/01	3	15	16	4	36	17	9	1