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What happened to cloning?

When asked this question, I couldn't help but feel a sense of shock. How could I and others not ever bring up such a fantastical science fiction topic brought to life years back. Headlines in cloning began with Dolly the sheep, springing controversy on the ethics of not only the treatment of animals during the cloning process, but also whether this should be extended to humans. An overwhelming amount of researchers and politicians would not give the green light to human cloning, and many individuals believed clones to be this sickly copy that was nothing more than monstrous. Countries, not including the U.S, passed laws banning human cloning; few states in the U.S banned human cloning.

Years after all the stirring controversy, what happened to cloning? Frankly, researchers saw no need in human cloning. A clone is a thing that has the same DNA as the original. Identical twins carry the same DNA, creating now reason to create a clone of a human for studying. Cloning of animals today has become commercialized, with companies cloning pets, or cloning animals for meat consumption. There is even research on cloning to bring back extinct animals, such as the mammoth. Cloning had such baggage tied to it, having both ethical issues and high rate of failure. It took 277 tries to get Dolly the sheep, and the process today still has a high rate of failure. Many researchers shifted to stem cell research, focusing of gene

manipulations, creating the 'ideal baby' that will be freed of inherited diseases or have a certain look.

References:

Primary Article

<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-08-04/what-ever-happened-to-cloning>

Cloning background info

<https://www.genome.gov/25020028/cloning-fact-sheet/>