My Extended Project Qualification

First idea: Is it morally wrong to genetically engineer animals and plants?.

I have a few ideas related to my subjects that I have taken for a-level. For biology the idea of genetically engineering a plant to help it yield more and survive harsher climates was very intriguing to me so I decided to research it further to give ideas on how I could turn it into an EPQ topic. One thing that came up when I researched was about genetically engineering animals to give them benefits that would help us and the ethical rights and wrongs behind it. I think this can be very good for an EPQ topic as there are resources I can use and I can express both sides of the argument. I can talk about both for and against genetic modification on animals and plants. The ethical thoughts behind it are about engineering animals for a beneficial purpose, such as genetically altering a cow so it can produce a higher quality milk. This is seen as wrong by many people because the cow doesn’t get to choose what happens to it. Many people are worried that genetic engineering could cause new diseases to surface which could cause the animals who normally are immune to then suffer from it. Plants have been genetically engineered to yield more crops which could benefit third world countries a lot, this would be an ethical benefit because it used to help the people in need.

Second idea: Is nuclear energy worth relying on?.

The other subject I was thinking about doing my EPQ topic on was physics, I enjoy some elements of physics such as radiation so I thought about how I can implement that into an EPQ topic, one question that I thought of is “Is nuclear energy worth relying on?” This question is wondering if the energy generated from nuclear isotopes worth creating radioactive waste that is buried underground until it decays. I could also link it in with a section about the effect of radiation on the body and how dangerous it is. Nuclear energy could be the cleanest way to stop pollution as it doesn’t produce any carbon emissions. It is a step in the right direction as factories and power plants are the leading cause for air pollution. However, this will create a new problem with radiation and its disposal.

Bibliography

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