Sudarshan Srirangapatanam

**Week 11 Reflection**

**1** On the Tuesday’s debate I was neutral before the debate and during the debate my opinion was changing as new info was presented but ultimately I disagree, iPSCs should not replace hESC research. One of the argument that I really liked about team arguing for is, that iPSCs offer a great alternative but that wouldn’t be enough to eliminate one technology completely. The team arguing against showed the risks involved in iPSCs being oncogenic and I am completely for it. Even though it has better acceptance I wouldn’t want to live in fear of cancer for rest of my life.

**2** On the topic of Human cloning should be allowed, I started off neutral and ended up agreeing to the statement. Team arguing for showed its implementation in infertile humans and same-sex couples which I think is very creative, initially I was thinking of more humans that look alike but this puts it into a whole new perspective. The opposing team brought up the safety issues, with regards to dolly and how much it would cost. I do agree with them, but I think we should be aiming at improving the efficiency of a new technology if it shows promising applications.

**3** I really like how Obama justified his decisions on lifting the ban, in my opinion, Bush ban was not rightly justified. You can’t simply go ahead and impose a ban on any new technology that has very important scientific implications.

I do believe that there have to be some boundaries, but what is important to consider is the source of those boundaries. Here the source of boundary clearly seems to be around when life begins. But the boundaries themselves should be backed up by scientific facts and research. I still believe that it should be the government that should be setting these boundaries since it allows for enough flexibility at a larger scale. That is, after Bush ban which is at a county level research in this field was still taking place elsewhere in the world. And this is good since one is not completely deprived of his opportunities to study.