

GENETICS, PHILOSOPHY

ETHICS AND EUGENICS

30.10.2019

Nature has an piece highlighting the history of the ethics profession along side the history of eugenics: [Ethical research — the long and bumpy road from shirked to shared](#). Connecting these dots is only possible by partial omissions of the text

Eugenics [...] is particularly associated with the mass-sterilization campaigns that began after Indiana's 1907 act, and with the Nazi racial-hygiene programme that reached its nadir in the Holocaust. Another legacy of the eugenics movement is the management of populations using techniques such as demography, racial classification and statistical modelling. These, combined with family planning, became synonymous with modernity and progress. From Latin America and Scandinavia to India, China and the Soviet Union, eugenics took root in projects to 'improve the population' throughout the twentieth century. [...] The stereotype of bureaucratic, box-ticking ethical compliance is no longer fit for purpose in a world of CRISPR twins [...]

CC-BY-NC Science Surf , accessed 20.03.2026, [click to save as PDF](#)
