

ethics



www.interchurchbioethics.org.nz

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InterChurch Bioethics Council

Exploring the spiritual, ethical
and cultural dimensions
of biotechnology and its
consequences in Aotearoa,
New Zealand

genetic modification
climate change
organ donation
transgenics
beginning of life issues
end of life issues
genetic information
cloning
epigenetics
reproductive technology
stem cell research
nanotechnology
neuroscience

bio

what is the ICBC?

The InterChurch Bioethics Council (ICBC) is an ecumenical cross-cultural body supported by the Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Aotearoa New Zealand. ICBC members have between them considerable expertise and knowledge in science, ethics, theology, medicine and education.

our history

In 2002 the “Interchurch Commission on Genetic Engineering” was established to make submissions to the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification. Following the decision of the Royal Commission, the terms of reference for the Interchurch Commission on Genetic Engineering were expanded to include the ethical, cultural and spiritual issues relating to biotechnology and the commission was renamed the InterChurch Bioethics Council.

our vision

To increase the knowledge and understanding of church members and the wider community, of the spiritual, ethical and cultural issues relating to biotechnology.

To enable and encourage citizens to take action on their own behalf on these issues.

our key tasks

To increase our own knowledge and understanding of the interface between spirituality and biotechnology;

To engage in consultation and dialogue with church members, community groups and specialists, on the ethical, spiritual and cultural issues raised by biotechnology.

To undertake and promote education on these issues within the community.

To make appropriate submissions to Government and other relevant organisations on important issues of ethical and spiritual concern.

who we are?

For a list of current membership please see:

Website:

www.interchurchbioethics.org.nz

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/InterChurchBioethicsCouncil

what is bioethics?

Bioethics is an interdisciplinary field that seeks to provide an ethical framework for policy and decision making surrounding biotechnological research and its resulting outcomes. It includes legal, political, commercial, theological and social aspects, as well as the possible future consequences of biotechnology.

Bioethics is concerned not only with biotechnology – and in particular certain novel and often controversial aspects of this science- but also with more commonplace questions concerning the personal and societal values that surround primary care and other branches of health care.

what is biotechnology?

Biotechnology refers to technologies grounded in biology that are used or being developed for use in agriculture, horticulture, health care and the environment.

study guides

Where Do We Stand?

A resource and study guide for church and community groups on the lifting of the moratorium on genetically modified organisms in New Zealand.

Making Good Decisions in Biotechnology: Stem Cell Research, Cloning and Genetic Information

A study guide for church groups.

Euthanasia: Unethical Intervention or Death with Dignity?

A study resource prepared by ICBC. Includes study questions and bibliography for further reading.

Real, Urgent, and Personal: A Christian Approach to Global Climate Change

A resource and study guide looking at global climate change and how Christians can respond

resources

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