



Questions for Classroom Discussion

“More of the Same...”

- **Why might someone want to clone their pet?**

- ⇒ Consider the strong emotional tie people have with their pets, and how difficult it can be when that pet passes away (especially since most pets have relatively short life spans)
- ⇒ Consider the “cool” factor of this new technology, and how cloning a pet has the appeal of science fiction
- ⇒ Consider that cloning pets is a fairly harmless way to introduce new and controversial technology (as opposed to cloning humans or using DNA to revive extinct species)

- **What are reasons why people might be against the idea of pet cloning?**

- ⇒ Consider the moral issues, and that cloning could be like “playing God”
- ⇒ Consider the simple economic issues—today, the cost to clone a pet is at least \$50,000; also, there are plenty of existing pets in need of good homes without having to clone a new one
- ⇒ Consider the fact that a “cloned” pet is not the original... environmental factors, experiences, and a variety of other influences play a huge role in how the new pet will look and behave

- **What should be the deciding factors to determine whether pet cloning is a good investment?**

- ⇒ Consider the fundamental economic question—*Will pet cloning be a profitable?* (this comes down to whether enough people will be willing to pay the high price tag)
- ⇒ Consider factors that might turn investors away (such as the moral implications or the public viewpoint), even if the investment itself could be very profitable
- ⇒ Consider the potential of the investment... even if it is not profitable right now, does the technology of cloning have the potential to be very profitable down the road (*and is there any advantage in investing early?*)