

Ethical Concerns Related to Medical Genetics

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ABSTRACT A great biochemist Erwin Chargaff, who discovered the parity theory of the DNA bases, once made a critical remark on the newly developed discipline of bioethics: "A fashion is going around the world, the fashion of bioethics. All the powers have entered into a holy hypocritical alliance with this fashion". With this remark, a parody of the first two sentences of Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto, Chargaff intended to point out the weakness of bioethics. Despite his skeptical views of bioethics, there are experts who discuss activities of biotechnology and grant the approval to the result of its research, including the bioethicists from genetic engineering companies like Monsanto and Movartis. Present article is an attempt to look into some relevant issues of genetics and ethics that defy our solution, especially with reference to the third world societies.