

# The DNA Mystique

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by Dorothy Nelkin and M. Susan Lindee

# The DNA Mystique

The Gene as a Cultural Icon

Dorothy Nelkin

M. Susan Lindee



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS

*Ann Arbor*

## *To Erica*

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Published in the United States of America by

The University of Michigan Press

Manufactured in the United States of America

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2007 2006 2005 2004 4 3 2 1

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*A CIP catalog record for this book is available from the British Library.*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Nelkin, Dorothy.

The DNA mystique : the gene as a cultural icon / Dorothy Nelkin,  
M. Susan Lindee.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-472-03004-3 (pbk. : alk. paper)

1. Genetics—Social aspects. 2. Genes—Social aspects. 3. DNA—  
Social aspects. 4. Genetics in mass media. I. Lindee, M. Susan. II. Title

QH438.7.N445 2004

599.93'5—dc22

2004047987

DOROTHY NELKIN  
1933–2003



Dot and I were working on the final revisions for this book when she became sick. She had surgery and chemotherapy, good days and bad days, but she kept writing and thinking. The ideas mattered to her so much. Her work over the last thirty years has influenced many people and as a thinker she continues to act in the world. But the person is gone.

She told me in the middle of this that people are what's important. I have that phone conversation on a tape in my head. I can hear her voice. She wanted this book to be dedicated to her granddaughter Erica, and it is. But those of us involved in producing it would also like to honor Dot, who loved ideas and people both.

—Susan Lindee

# Acknowledgments

This kind of project relies on help from many people. Graduate students and colleagues at the Department of the History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania and the Department of Sociology and the School of Law at New York University were helpful in providing material and analytical perspectives for both editions. Many colleagues and friends at other institutions around the world also sent us jokes, pictures, cartoons, quotes, and magazine covers, both while we were writing the first edition and while we were revising materials for this one. We found, as a result of this informal information network, remarkable consistencies in the public depiction of DNA around the globe. Such unsolicited contributions have shaped our thinking about the meaning of DNA in 2004, and we are grateful to the many readers, professors, and students who kept us informed about the images of DNA they encountered.

Howard Markel at the Medical School and Center for the History of Medicine at the University of Michigan provided commentary, encouragement, historical perspective, and examples. We are grateful for his interest in and commitment to the book. Suzanne Anker contributed both the cover art and her encouragement at a critical time.

The revisions for this book coincided almost precisely with Nelkin's very serious illness. The necessary rewriting and updating allowed two close colleagues, who have worked

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

together for many years, to once again join forces. The experience was delightful and productive, and it was meaningful in the deepest way for both of us.

Nelkin also wishes to acknowledge the loving patience, generosity, and kindness of her husband of 50 years. Extremely ill during the revision of this manuscript, she relied extensively on Mark's help with the many details of life. The experience brought them even closer together. The Nelkins' daughter, Lisa, and granddaughter, Erica, were also amazingly courageous and helpful during a difficult time.

We dedicate this book to Erica, with love.

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