Public Perception Survey

Hello everyone! We are a group of undergraduate researchers at Cornell and Stony Brook working to compete in a competition called iGEM. This survey is being distributed to understand people's views on synthetic biology and genetically modified organisms (GMOs). All of your responses will be kept 100% anonymous.

* Required

1. **1A) How would you rate your understanding of the concept of synthetic biology or genetic engineering? ***
Mark only one oval.

   ( ) I know what it is, and I can explain it thoroughly.

   ( ) I know what it is, but couldn't explain it well.

   ( ) I've heard of it, but I don't know what it is.

   ( ) I've never heard of it before.

2. **1B) How do you feel about the impact of synthetic biology/genetic engineering on the world? ***
Mark only one oval.

   ( ) Highly positive

   ( ) Somewhat positive

   ( ) Neutral

   ( ) Somewhat negative

   ( ) Highly negative

   ( ) Not sure

3. **2A) What falls under the term "genetically modified organism"? (Check all that you think apply.) ***
Check all that apply.

   [ ] An apple variety developed by cross breeding natural varieties

   [ ] Corn with an extra gene added for insect resistance

   [ ] E. coli bacteria used to produce insulin

   [ ] Clones of animals (e.g. Dolly the Sheep)

   [ ] Lab rats

   [ ] Goats injected with spider genes to produce silk

   [ ] All of the above

   [ ] I'm not sure

4. **2B) How would you rate your understanding of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ I know what it is, and I can explain it thoroughly.
- ◯ I know what it is, but couldn't explain it well.
- ◯ I've heard of it, but I don't know what it is.
- ◯ I've never heard of it before.

5. **2C) How do you feel about the impact of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) on the world?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Highly positive
- ◯ Somewhat positive
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ Somewhat negative
- ◯ Highly negative
- ◯ Not sure

6. **2D) How safe do you think GMO products on the market are to human health?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Very safe
- ◯ Safe
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ Unsafe
- ◯ Very Unsafe
- ◯ Not sure

7. **3A) Why do you think that GMOs are disadvantageous? (Answer "N/A" if you did not select "Neutral," "Somewhat negative," or "Highly negative" for question 2C.)** *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ I don't trust companies to handle GMOs.
- ◯ GMOs can have consequences on the environment.
- ◯ GMOS can have consequences on human health.
- ◯ GMOs can increase inequality.
- ◯ GMOs are not natural.
- ◯ Regulations are not strong enough.
- ◯ Other
- ◯ I don't know enough about GMOs to say.
- ◯ N/A

8. **3B) Why would you not use GMO products? (Answer "N/A" if you did not select "Unsafe" or "Very Unsafe" for question 2D.) (Check all that apply)**

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Religious or belief reasons
- ☐ Health concerns
- ☐ Environmental concerns
- ☐ Ethical concerns
- ☐ Regulatory concerns
- ☐ Other
- ☐ N/A

9. **4A) How often do you use products that use synthetic biology or genetic engineering? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ I use them all the time.
- ◯ I use them sparingly.
- ◯ I tend not to use them, but I might unknowingly.
- ◯ I seldom use them where there are no substitutes.
- ◯ I would never use GMOs.
- ◯ Unsure

10. **4B) Do you believe companies should specially label products of synthetic biology? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ Only in Certain Cases
- ◯ No

11. **4C) Do you trust companies to use synthetic biology in an ethical and responsible way? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ Only in Certain Cases
- ◯ No

12. **4D) Of that following, would you: (Check all that apply.)** *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Eat genetically-engineered food (e.g. corn grown larger)
- [ ] Eat food produced by a GMO (e.g. vanilla extract produced by bacteria)
- [ ] Use genetically-engineered medicine (e.g. insulin produced by bacteria)
- [ ] Use a genetically-engineered product directly on the body (e.g. a patch to prevent infection)
- [ ] Use a genetically-engineered product if not in contact with your body (e.g. a machine that uses bacteria to remove metals from water)
- [ ] Use a product that does not use genetic engineering
- [ ] Support additional public government funding for genetic engineering
- [ ] None of the above

13. **5A) How do you feel about the use of synthetic biology/genetic engineering for future science?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) It should be used as much as possible.
- ( ) It should be used more in certain areas than others.
- ( ) It should be used only when needed.
- ( ) It is too dangerous to be used at all.

14. **5B) In what areas do you think synthetic biology would be most applicable? (Check all that you think apply.)** *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Diagnostics (Health & Medicine)
- [ ] Energy
- [ ] Environment
- [ ] Food and Nutrition
- [ ] Research Tools
- [ ] Information Processing
- [ ] Manufacturing
- [ ] Therapeutics (Health & Medicine)
- [ ] Art & Design
- [ ] Hardware
- [ ] Measurement
- [ ] Software
- [ ] None of the Above

15. **6A) Age Range** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Under 13
- ( ) 13-17
- ( ) 18-24
- ( ) 25-40
- ( ) 40-65
- ( ) Above 65
- ( ) Prefer Not to Answer

16. **6B) Gender You Identify With** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Male
- ( ) Female
- ( ) Other
- ( ) Prefer Not to Say

17. **6C) What's the highest level of education you received?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Below high school
- ( ) Some high school
- ( ) High school
- ( ) Some college
- ( ) College (BA/BS/BE)
- ( ) Some Master's Program
- ( ) Master's
- ( ) Some Graduate/Professional (PhD, MD, DO, JD)
- ( ) Graduate/Professional (PhD, MD, DO, JD)
- ( ) Prefer not to answer
- ( ) Other: _____

18. **6D) What's the highest level of education someone in your family has received, not including yourself?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Below high school
- ( ) Some high school
- ( ) High school
- ( ) Some college
- ( ) College (BA/BS/BE)
- ( ) Some Master's Program
- ( ) Master's
- ( ) Some Graduate/Professional (PhD, MD, DO, JD)
- ( ) Graduate/Professional (PhD, MD, DO, JD)
- ( ) Prefer not to answer
- ( ) Other: _____

19. **6E) Do you have or will you have a degree in a STEM field?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Prefer Not to Answer

20. **6F) Would you describe yourself as politically liberal or conservative?** *

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Extremely Conservative
- ( ) Somewhat Conservative
- ( ) Slightly Conservative
- ( ) Neutral
- ( ) Slightly Liberal
- ( ) Somewhat Liberal
- ( ) Extremely Liberal
- ( ) Independent
- ( ) Prefer not to answer
- ( ) Other: _____

21. **6G) How would you describe where you currently live?** *

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Urban	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )	Rural

22. **6H) Name 1-3 major cities/towns that are close to where you currently live?**

_____

23. **7) Comments or additional input? (Optional)**

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_____

_____

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