

CANADIAN PRESS / LÉGER MARKETING

How Canadians Feel About Cloning

Report

January 2003



1.0 Study Highlights

- Canadians are against the cloning of humans but are for the cloning of human embryos.

Question : *The media recently reported the birth of two cloned babies. In relation to this news, are you FOR or AGAINST the cloning of human beings?*

Question : *Are you FOR or AGAINST the cloning of human embryos for the creation of stem cells that could be used in transplants, organ replacements or in the prevention or treatment of diseases that are presently incurable?*

n=1500	Cloning of Human Beings		Cloning of Human Embryos	
	For	Against	For	Against
Canada	5%	84%	53%	32%

Note : The 100% difference represents those who don't know or refuse to answer.

- Canadians would like to see legislation banning the cloning of human beings.

Question : *Do you think the federal government should legislate to ban ALL TYPES of cloning that create stems cells or living beings or only ban the cloning of LIVING human beings?*

n=1500	ANY TYPE of human cloning that could create stem cells of human beings	Only the cloning of LIVING human beings	Not banning any cloning AT ALL	Don't know / Refusal
	Canada	30%	52%	7%

- Six times more men than women would like to be cloned.

Question : *Would you personally like to be cloned?*

n=1500	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refusal
Male	6%	90%	4%
Female	1%	96%	3%
Canada	4%	93%	3%

2. Detailed Results

2.1 Canadians are against the cloning of humans but for the cloning of human embryos

84% of all Canadians remain opposed to the cloning of human beings, while 5% approve of it, and 11% do not have an opinion. In August 2001, 89% of the population was against this kind of cloning and 8% were for it.

It should be highlighted that over-65s (93%) are more likely to be opposed to the cloning of human being, while 18-24 year olds (15%) are more likely to approve of it than any other age group.

However, 53% of Canadians are in favour of cloning human embryos for the creation of stem cells, 32% are against it and 15% do not have an opinion. In August 2001, 55% of Canadians approved of the cloning of embryos, but 41% were against it. The number against has dropped by 9% since 2001.

As was the case for the cloning of human beings, 18-24 year olds (66%) seem to be more amenable to this kind of cloning

Question : *The media recently reported the birth of two cloned babies. In relation to this news, are you FOR or AGAINST the cloning of human beings?*

Question : *Are you FOR or AGAINST the cloning of human embryos for the creation of stem cells that could be used in transplants, organ replacements or in the prevention or treatment of diseases that are presently incurable?*

n=1500	For	Against	For	Against
	Cloning of human beings		Cloning of human embryos	
Atlantic Provinces	4%	83%	50%	36%
Quebec	5%	89%	58%	37%
Ontario	5%	83%	55%	29%
Prairies	4%	85%	46%	34%
Alberta	6%	82%	50%	33%
British Columbia	4%	81%	50%	26%
Canada	5%	84%	53%	32%

Note : The 100% difference represents those who don't know or refuse to answer.

2.2 Canadians would like to see legislation banning the cloning of human beings

52% of Canadians think the federal government should legislate against the cloning of human beings. In addition, 30% of the population would support legislation to ban any kind of human cloning, 7% of citizens oppose any kind of legislation and 12% could not answer the questions.

Quebeckers (42%) were more numerous in favouring the creation of legislation that would ban any kind of cloning than residents of the other provinces.

Question : *Do you think the federal government should legislate to ban ALL TYPES of cloning that create stems cells or living beings or only ban the cloning of LIVING human beings?*

n=1500	ANY TYPE of human cloning that could create stem cells of human beings	Only the cloning of LIVING human beings	Not banning any cloning AT ALL	Don't know / Refusal
Atlantic Provinces	29%	55%	5%	11%
Quebec	42%	44%	6%	8%
Ontario	25%	55%	8%	13%
Prairies	29%	50%	8%	14%
Alberta	28%	51%	11%	10%
British Columbia	21%	56%	6%	17%
Canada	30%	52%	7%	12%

2.3 Six times more men than women would like to be cloned

4% of the population would like to be cloned, 93% have no interest in it, and 3% do not have an opinion. These percentages vary by 1% from the August 2001 results.

It should be noted that only 1% of women compared to 6% of men would like to be cloned. 11% of 18-24 years olds would also like to undergo this procedure.

Question : *Would you personally like to be cloned?*

n=1500	Yes	No	Don't know/ Refusal
Men	6%	90%	4%
Women	1%	96%	3%
Atlantic Provinces	1%	96%	3%
Quebec	3%	96%	1%
Ontario	4%	93%	3%
Prairies	1%	95%	4%
Alberta	7%	88%	5%
British Columbia	4%	91%	5%
Canada	4%	93%	3%

3.0 Methodology

This study was conducted by Leger Marketing through telephone interviews among a representative sample of 1500 English- or French-speaking Canadians, 18 years of age or older.

The interviews were conducted from our Montreal and Winnipeg call centres between January 6 and January 12, 2003. Up to ten call-backs were made in the case of non-response.

Using data from Statistics Canada, the results were weighted according to geographic location, gender and language spoken at home to ensure a sample representative of the entire Canadian adult population. In the end, the maximum margin of error obtained for a sample of 1500 respondents is of ± 2.5 , 19 times out of 20.