

Newgenics: The Story of Eugenics and its Transition from Old to New

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Eugenics is often perceived as unthinkable and unrepeatably atrocious that are encapsulated in the past, too rash and extreme to ever bear its teeth in the modern age. While it is self-explanatory that eugenics is a grave evil that plagues the Earth with the central goal of taking away people's human right of procreation in order to achieve what the high society and people of power deems acceptable, the latter is false, as threads of past policies still wind their way into the 21st century. While the eugenic policies and actions have taken up a mask, the policies that were created in the early 20th century still impact our society and policies. Americans live in a society and political sphere that was, in part, formed upon the ideals of master eugenicist. The Rockefellers and other notable economic contributors that helped build the foundations of many ideas that are commonplace in our lives. These ideas have not left – but merely present themselves in new ways. In this paper, I will outline the story of eugenics and the impact that it had on society, and how in the modern age, we have “new eugenics,” or the continuation of eugenics and forced sterilization policies under a façade after the eugenic atrocities of the Holocaust were brought to light post-World War II, but still fueled by the same motivations of the early 1900s including poverty, race, nationality, and mental illness. Through analytical analysis of past and current United States Supreme Court cases, U.S. laws and policy, international and national events that promoted eugenics, along with the social effects that followed, helping to solidify and push the lasting effects of these gross violations of people's human right persist into the modern age.