

MARCH 20, 21, 23 and 24, 2023  
(Zoom Event)

**OSWALDO CRUZ FOUNDATION  
(Fiocruz)**

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
HUMAN GENOMIC ENHANCEMENT  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH

**A COLLECTIVIST PUBLIC HEALTH FRAMEWORK**

English/Portuguese

**Organizers**

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**Maria Helena Barros de Oliveira**  
(Fiocruz / ENSP / DIHS / PPG-SP)

**Murilo Mariano Vilaça**  
(Fiocruz / ENSP / GIFT-H+ / FAPERJ / CNPq)

**Lecturer**

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**DPhil Tess Johnson**  
(University of Oxford)



# TESS JOHNSON'S LECTURES

## HUMAN GENOMIC ENHANCEMENT: A COLLECTIVIST PUBLIC HEALTH FRAMEWORK

### GENERAL GOAL

To bring to the national academic scene an innovative approach on the internationally relevant topic of human genome enhancement and its relation to the field of public health, which has been developed in one of the world's great research centres (The Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, University of Oxford): Collectivist Public Health framework, a proposal for an ethical analysis of collectively oriented human genome enhancement technologies, supported by the so-called public health ethics.

### SPECIFIC GOALS

- To introduce the participants to the topic of human genome enhancement.
- To identify and address the ethical and political issues surrounding human genome enhancement technologies.
- Analyze the distinction between therapy and enhancement.
- To discuss the relevance of this distinction for the promotion of public/collective goods in the field of public health.
- Articulate the knowledge discussed and consolidate your understanding through analysis of selected cases.

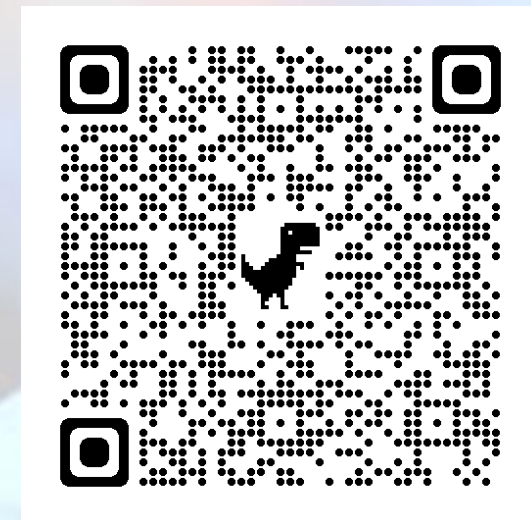
# CALL FOR REGISTRATIONS

- Registration via link or QR code:

Link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdscIfq7Vju0wOLxy9MQYjxWZXpZFbKtBuDtBiZUbAiqZVw9Q/viewform>

QR CODE:



- Four-day event with two-hour daily: 10am to 12pm (Brazilian Official Time).
- Registered participants with attendance over 75% will receive certificates.
- Free event (financed with public resources) and with limited registrations (90 participants). **Please kindly check schedule availability before registering.**
- Registrants will receive three texts kindly sent to them by Tess Johnson (DPhil). The purpose is that the previous reading optimizes the discussion that will follow from the lecture presented.
- **The lectures and discussion will be translated simultaneously: English – Portuguese.**
- Contact email (for further information): [gift.h.mais@gmail.com](mailto:gift.h.mais@gmail.com)



# EVENT PROGRAM

## **Day 1 – March 20th (Monday)**

A background on the development of human enhancement and how this has led to the potential use of human germline genome editing for enhancement in the near future. A summary of the key ethical issues as identified in the early debate would be included.

## **Day 2 – March 21st (Tuesday)**

A background on issues with contrasting human enhancement and therapeutic uses of these technologies, with reference to the treatment-enhancement distinction and how it does not apply in the public health setting (especially when it comes to, eg. vaccination and contraception as public health initiatives). This would include discussion of how public health ethics takes a collectivist viewpoint and how this intersects with denying the treatment-enhancement distinction.

## **Day 3 – March 23rd (Thursday)**

A proposal for how we might take a public health ethics approach to human enhancement and how this can help with:

- a) The effective identification of stakeholders and their interests that might be affected by policy on using enhancement Technologies.
- b) The effective identification of ethical concepts that are useful tools for weighing interests against each other in deciding whether to use or how to regulate human enhancement technologies.
- c) Thorough-going discussion of justice issues, particularly considering context-specific implementation of human enhancement technologies around the world, given varying levels of capacity for implementation, values surrounding traits that should be enhanced, etc.

## **Day 4 – March 24th (Friday)**

Case studies.



# TESS' ACADEMIC BIO

Tess Johnson is a GLIDE postdoctoral researcher in ethics of pandemic preparedness, surveillance and response. She is based at the Ethox Centre, University of Oxford. Her main current focus is on the ethical justifications for policy interventions aimed at antimicrobial resistance, and natural and engineered pathogens. During her doctoral research (DPhil in Philosophy, University of Oxford), Tess conducted an ethical analysis of human genomic enhancement, looking at how a novel collectivist approach based in public health ethics might better inform policy in the area. Her research on the ethics of human enhancement was conducted under the supervision of Professor Julian Savulescu and Dr Alberto Giubilini. Concurrently with her primary role, Tess holds a number of other positions. She is a Forethought Fellow at the Global Priorities Institute, where she conducts research on global catastrophic biological risks. She is also a stipendiary lecturer in moral philosophy (various papers) at University College, Oxford. Finally, she has a pastoral care and disciplinary role as the Deputy Principal of Postmasters at Merton College, Oxford. Other areas of research interest include global health ethics, genetic ethics, and reproductive ethics.