EUGENICS

Lesson Plan: Examples of Eugenics

Objective: Students will be able to realize that eugenics has been a method commonly used

by some societies to deal with people with disabilities.

Students will be able to analyze the justifications for and the ethical dilemmas of

various examples of eugenics.

Materials: Copies of T-chart

Website pages



Vocabulary: almshouse idiots

Apgar Test paupers (pauperism)

clone promiscuous epileptics sterilization glaucoma vasectomy

New York State Learning Standards:

ELA Standard 1: Language for Information and Understanding

ELA Standard 2: Language for Literary Response and Expression

ELA Standard 4: Language for Social Interaction

SS Standard 1: History of the United States and New York State

SS Standard 5: Civics, Citizenship, and Government

Procedure:

- 1. The teacher should view the Eugenics section of the Society wing of the website to gain background information.
- 2. Selections from the website may be viewed by students online or copies of those pages may be printed for student use.
- 3. With a partner, students will examine the website. Each pair will choose three examples of eugenics from the website to study. (The common choices from the website: Sparta, Plato's idea of "Selective Breeding", Darwin, The Jukes, Carrie Buck, The Immigration Restriction Act, "T-4" Program and Germany, etc. Students should not be limited to just these choices.
- 4. Using the internet or print sources, students will further research each example in depth.
- 5. After analyzing their research together, each pair of students will attempt to determine the justifications for and ethical dilemmas of each example.
- 6. Each pair will complete the T-chart explaining their findings to the class.

Closure/Ticket out the door: Choose one example of eugenics from the presentations by the other students. State the justification for the use and the ethical dilemma of this example.



Name			



Example of Eugenics:	
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JUSTIFICATION FOR USE	ETHICAL DILEMMA
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