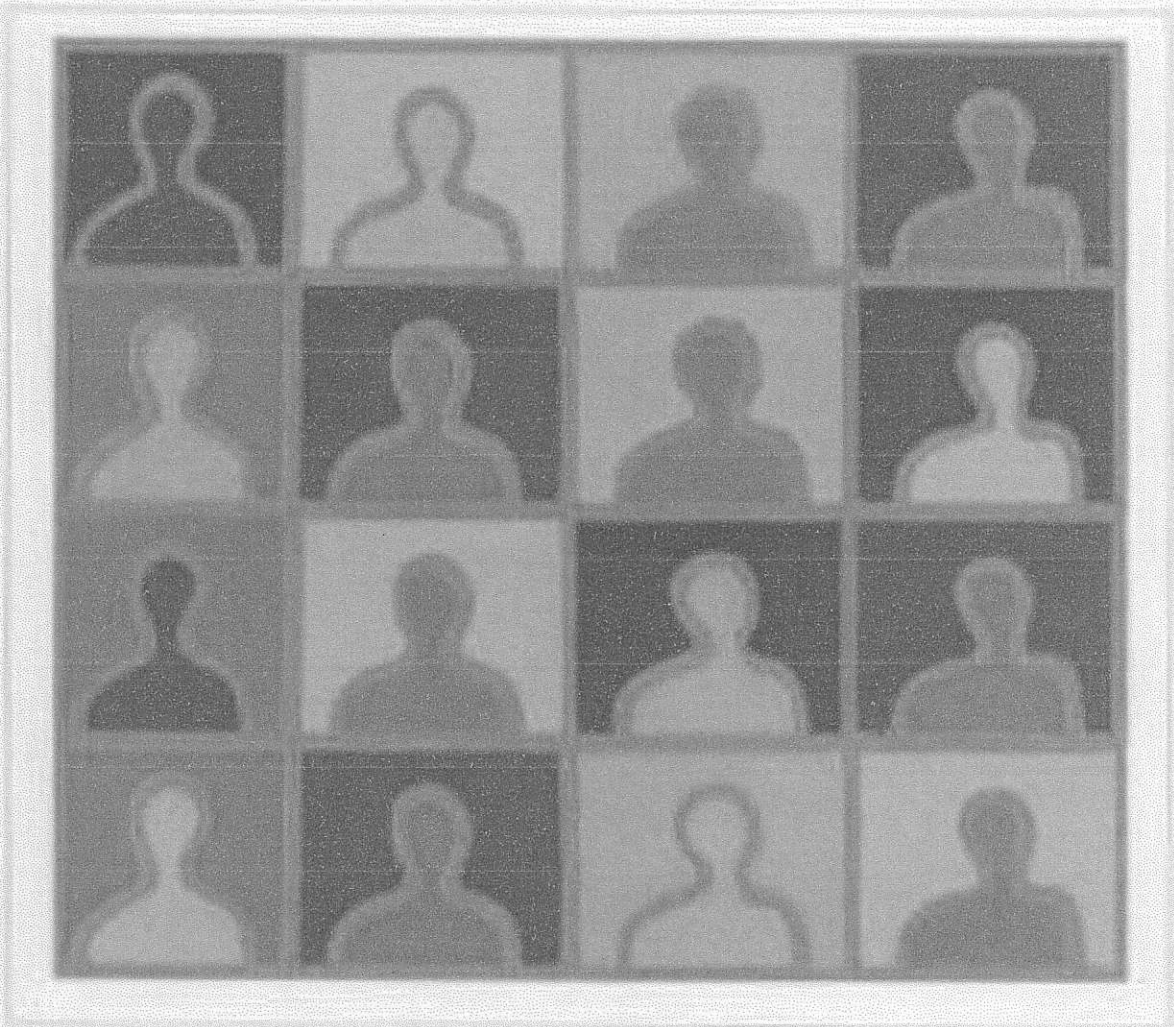


HUMAN GENETIC ENGINEERING



A GUIDE FOR ACTIVISTS, SKEPTICS,
AND THE VERY PERPLEXED

PETE SHANKS

DR. SEED, AND THOSE WHO WOULD CLONE THE KING

THE WONDERFULLY NAMED Dr. Richard Seed announced in early 1998 that he was going to produce five hundred clones a year, starting with himself and his wife. He showed little evidence of the resources or expertise required, though he had been involved in some legitimate work on embryo transfer techniques; his doctorate is in physics.⁶³ He was described as "quite serious and seriously nutty" by Lee Silver (see Chapter 10), himself no enemy of cloning.⁶⁴

The publicity Seed gathered was one reason that President Clinton called for a law banning cloning. This in turn led to the following statement:⁶⁵ "Americans for Cloning Elvis (ACE) neither supports nor disapproves of Dr. Seed's plans. Americans for Cloning Elvis (ACE), however, is concerned that Dr. Seed's plans will derail its goal of cloning Elvis."

They know of a piece of toenail and a wart, they say. They had at least 2,637 signatures on June 17, 2004. Why bother? Elvis lives.