

PLEASED TO MEET ME DISCUSSION GUIDE



WHAT MAKES US WHO WE ARE?

Pleased to Meet Me has the answers! Delve into these provocative questions for a life-changing look at the hidden forces that shape our individual natures.

To what degree do you think political affiliation is influenced by genetics? Can the studies described in the book help you engage in more productive dialogue with people who hold opposing viewpoints?

For decades, people with weight problems or substance abuse issues have been shamed and blamed for lacking discipline or self-control. Do you think this is still happening? How may we help people struggling with appetite or addiction issues more effectively?

New genes are routinely being discovered that appear to influence behavior. Do you think it is reasonable to sequence the genomes of teenagers to detect predispositions for aggression, depression, or addiction? Should a person who possesses a gene variant frequently linked to violent behavior be allowed to purchase a gun?

If doctors could prescribe a bacteria pill linked to increasing immunity, would you take it? Would you take one that promised increased athletic or intellectual performance? What dangers may arise from manipulating our microbiomes?

We now have the technology to edit the genes of babies before they are born. Are there certain circumstances in which this should be permissible? What are the potential downsides of such genetic interventions?

Pleased to Meet Me asserts that we have less control over our personalities, beliefs, and behavior than we like to think. Does the idea that we have little to no free will trouble you?

Based on what you've learned about the biology underlying human behavior, will you be treating other people in your life differently? Why or why not?

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