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#### IN SCIENCE FICTION

The novel *Brave New World* (1931) is a dystopian social science fiction novel by English author Aldous Huxley, set in a futuristic World State, whose citizens are environmentally engineered into an intelligence-based social hierarchy.

The film *Gattaca* (1997) provides a fictional example of a dystopian society that uses eugenics to decide what people are capable of and their place in the world. Though *Gattaca* was not a box office success, it was critically acclaimed and is said to have crystallized the debate over the controversial topic of human genetic engineering. The film's dystopian depiction of 'genoism' has been cited by many bioethicists and laypeople in support of their hesitancy about, or opposition to, eugenics and the societal acceptance of the genetic-determinist ideology that may frame it. In a 1997 review of the film for the journal *Nature Genetics*, molecular biologist Lee M. Silver stated that "Gattaca is a film that all geneticists should see if for no other reason than to understand the perception of our trade held by so many of the public-at-large". In his 2018 book *Blueprint*, behavioral geneticist Robert Plomin writes that while *Gattaca* warned of the dangers of genetic information being used by a totalitarian state; that genetic testing could also favor better meritocracy in democratic societies which already administer psychological tests to select people for education and employment. Plomin suggests that polygenic scores might supplement testing in a manner that is free of biases. Various works by author Robert A. Heinlein mention The Howard Foundation, a group aimed at improving human longevity through selective breeding.

#### REFERENCES

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