



# Personal Genetics Education Project

## WHY PGED?

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Genetics research is progressing at a feverish pace and increasingly impacting people's lives and society as a whole. A person may encounter genetics when seeking medical care or thinking about having children, when learning about their ancestry, during interactions with law enforcement, and even during a trip to the voting booth or local store.

Founded in 2006 in the Department of Genetics at Harvard Medical School, pgEd is a team of scientists, social scientists, educators, and community organizers, who talk with people about genetics in every way that it touches our lives – from health to the workplace and from the environment to the criminal justice system. pgEd's mission is to increase awareness and conversation about the benefits and ethical, legal, and social implications of personal genetics. We believe that far-reaching public engagement about genetic advances is key for a safe and equitable path forward.

## RESOURCES

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pgEd creates free, interactive lessons that explore the ethical, legal, and social implications of knowing more about one's DNA. We combine accurate scientific content with the real-world impact on people and the choices they may face. Our SNAPSHOTs are perfect for getting a quick overview of many of today's most relevant topics.

For a deeper dive, teachers will find full lesson plans discussing the role of genetics in everything from ancestry testing, personalized medicine, and genome editing, to reproductive genetic testing, law enforcement, and the American eugenics movement.

Through a partnership with WETA, pgEd created and adapted several lessons to accompany the PBS documentary, The Gene: An Intimate History. Pairing clips from the film with pgEd activities and discussions creates rich, interactive experiences perfect for the classroom or distance learning.

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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pgEd is working to bring conversations about genetic advances outside of the halls of research labs and into the public sphere – in classrooms and community centers, libraries and museums, places of worship, movie theaters and government offices, and online. Join us!



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