

#CRISPRfacts media debate over Wired's hype of gene editing technique

On July 21, *WIRED* magazine released its [August issue](#) with a [cover story on the controversial new gene-editing technique CRISPR](#). Under the headline “The Genesis Engine,” the cover shows magenta mountains and bright pink trees, and welcome readers to “the post-natural world.”

The online version of the article begins: “Easy DNA editing will remake the world. Buckle up.”

Even with today's sensationalist scientific journalism, this level of hyperbole was a bit much, and the satirical Twitter hashtag [#CRISPRfacts](#) quickly began to trend.

[Daniel Macarthur](#), a geneticist at Harvard Medical School and the Broad Institute, was the first to [suggest](#) that *WIRED*'s CRISPR article may have gone too far with the tweet:

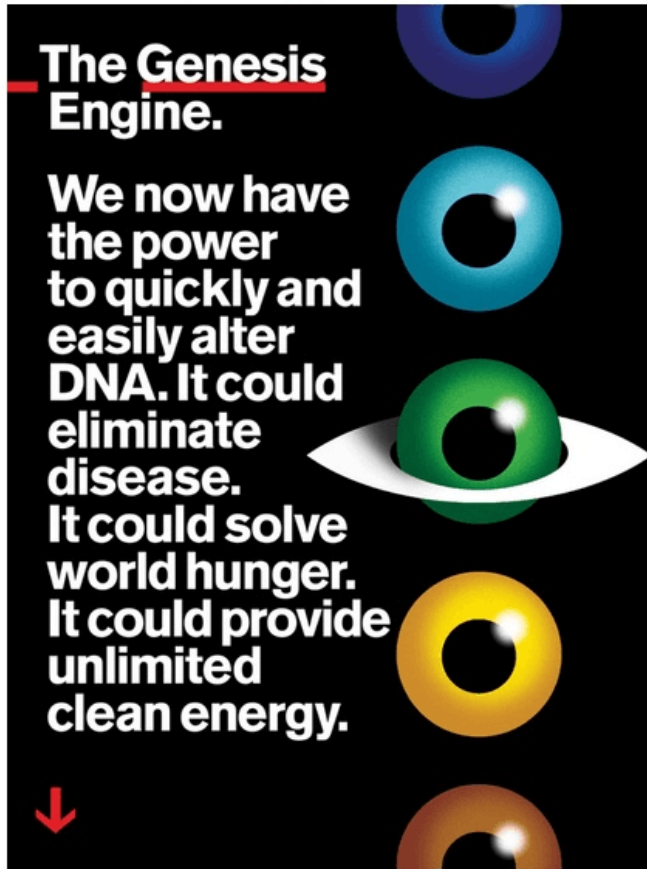


Daniel MacArthur
@dgmacarthur



Following

Wired maybe overhyping CRISPR just a
little bit (via @EricTopol)



RETWEETS
101

FAVORITES
77



Click image for larger version.

For those of us with deep social and political concerns about CRISPR – especially about proposals to use it to create genetically modified human beings, which the *WIRED* article discusses – the Twitter wave was double-edged. It was great to see the hype bubble pierced, but a little worrisome that few of the tweets acknowledged any problem with CRISPR beyond the hype.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: The Facts Behind #CRISPRfacts and the Hype Behind CRISPR