

No outrage: Why news of first cloned monkeys barely moved the needle

[Cloned monkeys] Zhong Zhong and Hua Hua were created at the Chinese Academy of Science's Institute of Neuroscience in Shanghai.

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[I]s society ready to accept cloned primates for medical research without the attendant hysteria about fears of cloned humans? It appears so. While much of the news coverage expressed this predictable worry, my overall impression is that the societal response was muted. Where was the expected outrage?

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In the just past 30 days we have seen more cloning headlines. Another cultural icon, Barbara Streisand, revealed she owns two cloned Coton de Tulear puppies. The other weekend, the television news show "60 Minutes" devoted close to an hour on the cloned ponies used at the top level of professional polo. And in India, scientists just cloned the first Assamese buffalo.

And you know what? After years of panic, none of this has caused much of a stir. It's as if the future described by Alvin Toffler in "Future Shock" has arrived and we are just living with it. A couple of cloned monkeys barely move the needle.

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I think Zhong Zhong and Hua Hua will soon be joined by a legion of cloned macaques and probably marmosets. We humans are enduring plagues of dementia and Alzheimer's, and we will need more monkeys. I will take mine cloned, if it will speed the mending of these consciousness-destroying afflictions.

Read full, original post: [The First Cloned Monkeys Provoked More Shrugs Than Shocks](#)