

Chinese scientist He Jiankui, creator of first 'CRISPR children', released from jail

The daring Chinese biophysicist who created the world's first gene-edited children has been set free after three years in a Chinese prison.

He Jiankui created shock waves in 2018 with the stunning claim that he'd altered the genetic makeup of IVF embryos and implanted them into a woman's uterus, leading to the birth of twin girls. A third child was born the following year.

Following international condemnation of the experiment, He was placed under home arrest and then detained. In December 2019, he was [convicted](#) by a Chinese court.

Follow the latest news and policy debates on sustainable agriculture, biomedicine, and other 'disruptive' innovations. Subscribe to our newsletter.

[SIGN UP](#)

It's unclear whether He has plans to return to scientific research in China or another country. People who know him have described the biophysicist, who was trained at Rice University and Stanford, as idealistic, naïve, and ambitious.

Before his world collapsed around him, He believed he'd created a new way to "control the HIV epidemic" that would be considered for a Nobel Prize.

...

He's punishment does appear to have delayed further experiments on gene editing to make babies, certainly in China. In the US, the procedure is effectively banned via law that forbids the Food and Drug Administration from approving such a study.

[This is an excerpt. Read the original post here.](#)