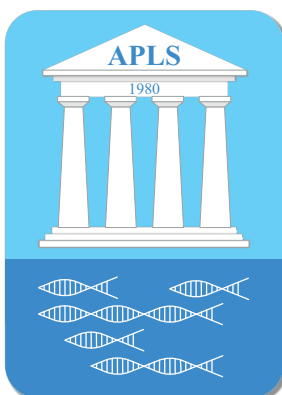


# POLITICS AND THE LIFE SCIENCES

VOL. 34, No. 1

WWW.JOURNALS.CAMBRIDGE.ORG/PLS

SPRING 2015



THE ASSOCIATION FOR  
POLITICS AND THE LIFE SCIENCES

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### On the cover

Slight variations in DNA sequencing, illustrated here with different combinations of the four nucleotide bases (GACT) superimposed over a flow of pedestrians, can have a major impact on disease susceptibility, especially responses to bacteria, viruses, and toxins. As researchers in the public and private sectors generate genetic maps useful for identifying genes associated with complex diseases—showing where and how individuals differ in their DNA sequence—states must grapple with questions surrounding biotechnology policy, including questions of privacy. Such issues are interrogated by Rebecca Harris in her article on state responses to biotechnology appearing in this issue. Image provided by the U.S. Department of Energy, Human Genome Project image gallery archive. Reprinted with permission, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science, [science.energy.gov/ber/](http://science.energy.gov/ber/).

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Welcome to *PLS* ..... ii

**RESEARCH ARTICLES**

State responses to biotechnology  
*Legislative action and policymaking in the U.S., 1990–2010*  
Rebecca C. Harris ..... 1

In sickness and in health  
*Personal health and political participation in the Nordic countries*  
Peter Söderlund and Lauri Rapeli ..... 28

When women attack  
*Sex scandals, gender stereotypes, and candidate evaluations*  
Bryan McLaughlin, Catasha Davis, David Coppini, Young Mie Kim,  
Sandra Knisely, and Douglas McLeod ..... 44

Selective perceptions of hydraulic fracturing  
*The role of issue support in the evaluation of visual frames*  
Melanie A. Sarge, Matthew S. VanDyke, Andy J. King, and Shawna R. White ..... 57

Strengthening bonds and connecting with followers  
*A biobehavioral inventory of political smiles*  
Patrick A. Stewart, Erik P. Bucy, and Marc Mehu ..... 73

**PERSPECTIVE**

Security implications and governance of cognitive neuroscience  
*An ethnographic survey of researchers*  
Margaret E. Kosal and Jonathan Y. Huang ..... 93

**BOOK REVIEWS**

Peter Derkx and Harry Kunneman, eds., *Genomics and Democracy: Towards a 'Lingua Democratica' for the Public Debate on Genomics*  
Reviewed by Bonnie Chojnacki ..... 109

Peter Piot, *No Time to Lose: A Life in Pursuit of Deadly Viruses*  
Reviewed by Sopal Ear ..... 111

Mark Pagel, *Wired for Culture: Origins of the Human Social Mind*  
Reviewed by Troy Camplin ..... 113

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