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ECO-THEOLOGICAL IMAGINATION OF LIBERATION: A SKETCH FOR A MANIFESTO

Theology of liberation is at the same time political engagement and theological perspective, guerrilla resistance and mystic piety. Theologians who are in favour of the theology of liberation discourse strive to redefine the models of relationship between theology and politics, activism and spirituality. Leonardo Boff is an authentic practitioner of such model. Boff’s liberation theology is framed by a specific ecological matrix that needs to be presented and critically questioned. The paper aims at outlining the basic categories of Boff’s eco-theological liberation imagination and at studying the reaches of his thought. The author will sketch the vision of Boff’s orthopraxy, which is a synthesis of liberation theology and ecological wisdom. The paper will conclude with the emphasis on the originality of Boff’s holistic view of reality and with the anticipation of future developments of his thought pertaining to ecology.

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BIOETHICS AND ANIMAL CLONING

Bioethics is now understood as the Ethics of modern biotechnology. One of the issues in bioethics is cloning, which is the technique of producing a genetically identical duplicate of an organism. Cloning is divided into animal and human cloning; this paper will discuss animal cloning because genetic modification of mammals could become quick and cheap. Introducing genes into mammals is currently laborious and expensive, which is why it is used only for research and the creation of animals that yield high-value medical products. Genetically modified (GM) mammals are customarily made by injecting naked DNA directly into an egg, although the success rate is extremely low. In order to create one GM animal, a skilled technician has to carry out dozens of injections and then implant the resulting embryos. The successful cloning of an adult sheep, Dolly, opened up a new chapter in the field of animal cloning which attracted worldwide debate and it was the first cloning of a mammal from an adult cell. Scientist started to evaluate the idea of cloning endangered species to increase their population. But Dolly’s inability to survive has brought about deep speculations about the future of cloning in general, and of human cloning in particular. Critics from various fields, scientists, and legal experts are either disproving the fears from or raising alarms about the prospect of cloning a human being. In this paper bioethics and animal cloning will be discussed in details.

BIOETIKA I KLONIRANJE ŽIVOTINJA

Bioetika se danas shvaća kao etika moderne biotehnologije. Jedno od pitanja kojim se bavi bioetika jest kloniranje, tehnika uzgoja genetski iden-
tičnog duplikata organizma. Kloniranje se dijeli na životinjsko i ljudsko kluniranje, a u ovom će se radu raspravljati o životinjskom kloniranju koje se poduzima zato što bi genetičko modificiranje sisavaca moglo postati brzo i jefini. Trenutačno je unošenje gena u sisavec laboratorijsko i skupo te se stoga te tehnika primjenjuje samo u istraživačke svrhe i kako bi se stvorilo sisave koji donose visokovrijedne medicinske proizvode. Danas genetski modificirani (GM) sisavci obično nastaju uštravanjem čiste DNA izravno u jajače, iako je uspješnost ekstremno niska. Kako bi se dobila GM životinja, kvalfikirani tehničar mora izvesti desetine uštravanja i implantirati embrije koji su se iz toga razvili. Uspješno kloniranje odrasle ovce Dolly otvorilo je novu poglavlj na polju kloniranja životinja, što je potaknulo ras,
pravu dljim svijeta i to je bilo prvo kloniranje sisavca iz odrasle stanic. Znanstvenici su počeli vremetepi ideju kloniranja ugroženih vrsta kako bi se povećala njihova populacija. Međutim, smrt Dolly u novije je vrijeme imala za posljedicu intenzivne spekulacije o budućnosti kloniranja u cijelo-
sti, a posebice kloniranja ljudi. Kritičari s različitih područja, znanstvenici, pravni stručnjaci, žestro reagiraju na te novosti odbacivanjem strahova ili nekih drugih stavova koji potiču uzbuđu zbog mogućnosti kloniranja ljud-
skog bića. U ovom će se radu podrobnog raspravljati o bioetici i kloniranju životinja.