



**GM crops: the ethics debate**

*GM: points of view*

**Female shopper:**

I certainly wouldn't like my children to be eating anything that isn't properly tested so really yes, I think it's unnatural. I don't think it's right.

**Male shopper:**

When not very much is known you have to exercise caution.

**Male shopper:**

If that helped to eliminate poverty, why would that be a bad thing?

**Female activist:**

Would it help to eliminate poverty?

**Male shopper:**

Are you saying it wouldn't?

**Female activist:**

Would you like to take that from the Co-op and that's the Friends of the Earth leaflet and give it to your person in charge?

**Woman shopper:**

My, yes, housekeeper. I will do that, yes.

**Female activist:**

Thanks very much.

**Ruth Chadwick, Bioethicist:**

In this society we have a democratic process. And that should be used to determine what we do about GM. The important thing is what views are allowed to feed into the policy making process. And it's an important aspect of this, that a wide range of ethical view is allowed to be heard.

**Narrator:**

The public are now more engaged in the government's decision-making process. A careful balancing act is now required. If the technology is here to stay, who should own and control it.

**Adam Duguid, Farmer:**

Well obviously the person that owns and controls the technology in the first instance, is the chemical company, who's developed it, because they've obviously poured an enormous amount of resources into developing that technology. And I think it's only reasonable in a capitalist society, that they should be rewarded for that.

**Jonathan Jones, Crop scientist:**

I'd like to see more public sector ownership of this technology. Of both the plant breeding and of owning patents.

**Alan Gear, Organic cultivator:**

The public are not going to stand for it. And there has to be much more engagement with the public for this to be acceptable.

**Jenny Sampson, Environmental activist:**

It's got all sorts of politics tied up with it. I mean you could, it's very obvious to me, that it's part of our government's collaboration with the USA.