



## Genetic Issues: Public and Stakeholders

SRBI researchers have been on the forefront of research on public attitudes about genetic issues since Dr. Boyle authored the groundbreaking survey on Public Attitudes toward Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering for the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) of the U.S. Congress. This national study of public understanding and opinion about emerging medical and non-medical uses of biotechnology was commissioned by OTA due to regulatory concerns of the Congress. Dr. Boyle worked with critics of the new technology, as well as proponents, to develop a fair and balanced assessment. The national survey of 1,275 adults explored public knowledge, attitudes and opinion about science, biotechnology, commercial uses of genetic engineering (e.g., frost free strawberries), medical uses of genetic testing and treatment, perceived risks and benefits of the technology, and appropriate controls for the technology.

Please contact Dr. John Boyle, Managing Partner of SRBI's Health Research Practice, at (301) 608-3883 for additional information.

### ***Study Examples:***

- Managing Genetic Information
- Survey of Attitudes toward DNA Patenting
- Carrier Screening and Health Insurance Survey
- Genetic Screening in the Workplace
- Public Attitudes Toward Genetic Issues
- Public Attitudes toward Genetically Engineered Food
- Public Attitudes toward Biotechnology in Food

### ***Case Study:***

#### ***National Survey of Public and Stakeholders' Attitudes and Awareness of Genetic Issues***

SRBI was commissioned by the New York Academy of Sciences and the National Center for Genome Resources to conduct a National Survey of Public and Stakeholders' Attitudes and Awareness of Genetic Issues. The survey updates and expands on public awareness, knowledge, and attitudes concerning the medical uses of genetic testing and treatment, including their implications for patients and the public. In addition to a national survey of 1,000 adults, this study included parallel surveys of 500 physicians and 500 other stakeholders, including patient organizations, biotechnology industry, scientists, science media, religious leaders, health insurers and government officials. The survey report includes trends in public attitudes toward genetic issues.