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De-Sequencing

Identity Work with Genes

Are you your genes? *De-Sequencing: Identity Work with Genes* explores this perplexing question, showing how different forms of knowledge must be contextualized to become meaningful. It is generally assumed that the genomic sequence adds up to the identity-forming material life is made of. Yet identity cannot itself adopt the form of a sequence. As the authors in this volume show, the genome must be ‘de-sequenced’ by human language to render it interpretable and meaningful in a social context. The book unpacks this type of ‘sequence-speech’ in engaging detail, adopting a personal, social, cultural, and bio-political approach to examine the transformation of human identity and reflexivity in the era of genetic citizenship.

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