

This response was submitted to the consultation held by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics on the Forensic use of bioinformation: ethical issues between November 2006 to January 2007. The views expressed are solely those of the respondent(s) and not those of the Council.

Ben Pheasey-Rattigan

Any database storing DNA data or samples should only hold data on actual convicted serious criminals and only for a limited period. The storing generally of DNA for those who have not been proven guilty by a court of law or the general public should never be allowed and anyone found illegally storing DNA data or samples should face a maximum 20 years jail term and banned for life from practicing any biosciences.

This is a most serious issue and we should not even be considering storing DNA data or samples of the general public as no-one person or organisation can ever be trusted. The very thought of a DNA database makes me feel sick to my stomach.