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The Secretary
House of Representatives
Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Human Cloning

I write to voice my concerns about human cloning. I believe that an embryo is a human being and must be treated as such. While experts will assert that nobody knows when human life begins the only safe assumption is that a person begins when the sperm penetrates the ovum.

No matter how an embryo is brought into existence once the possibility of it being human life exists it should be treated as human life. So that one would have to say that no scientist should be allowed to bring human life into existence.

Experience shows that IVF babies have more health problems than normal babies do so that even normal IVF is dubious at best. One doesn't want human beings brought into existence artificially if they are going to be plagued by health problems.

So that the Commonwealth Government should have nothing to do with cloning, IVF or any other procedure touching upon the creation or destruction of human embryos or experimentation on human embryos.

Fifty years ago the Western Allies hanged a number of leading Nazis for crimes against humanity including experimentation on human beings. Nazi Germany was the second most appalling regime ever to come into existence surpassed only by the Soviet Union. One of its key programs was the creation of a super race using abortion, infanticide and various techniques to produce perfect human beings. This is a road we've already started down with abortion for foetal abnormalities. Already in America there is talk of not providing medical benefits for the birth of children with defects.

According to Professor Singer it is OK to perform infanticide on abnormal infants up to a month after birth. Singer's view is perfectly consistent with a philosophy of

abortion on demand which has been accepted by all State and Territory Governments in fact if not in law.

Last month we had a conference on late term abortion at Coolum Beach with some leading overseas late term abortionists giving dissertations. One is reminded of the Wansee Conference on the "Jewish problem" hosted by Reichfuhrer Heydrich in 1942. This time the problem was imperfect foetuses.

So that one can see where a lack of respect for human life leads-right down the path taken by Nazi Germany. We've already had a serious disaster with a Chinese woman being repatriated to China for a forced abortion. She was a human being, as was her child. Both were entitled to care and protection. That care and protection was not forthcoming. So that I don't think we are as different to the Germans of the 1930s as we'd like to think. If Australians had not accepted abortion on demand that incident would never have happened.

The UNFPA is already pushing abortion and sterilisation on the third world so that one should not think that the excesses of Nazism are behind us. Environmentalists have successfully cut the use of DDT in third world countries leading to a resurgence of malaria which has killed millions of Asians. When challenged on this a leading environmentalist said that there are too many of them anyway. One sees in this the classic Nazi difference between the "Herrenvolk" and the "Untermenschen". There are some people who are subhuman and one has a different set of standards for dealing with them. The pregnant Chinese woman was one of these also.

The point is that one should not assume that Nazism died with the last of the war criminals to go through the gallows. The road taken by Germany is a road that can be taken by any society which loses respect for human life. We've also seen it in Rwanda, Bosnia, Kosovo and East Timor.

In short I believe that Australia has lost far too much ground in regard to the sanctity of human life. It is well down the "slippery slope" already and cannot afford to go any further. I believe that the Commonwealth should have nothing to do with any form of human cloning and should do all in its powers to prevent any State or Territory Government becoming so involved.

Yours sincerely

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