



DON'T LET THEM
LEGALISE
EMBRYO
EXPERIMENTATION
AND HUMAN CLONING

THE IRISH CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES PROTECTION TO UNBORN HUMAN LIFE FROM THE MOMENT OF CONCEPTION

Will the Government appointed Committee on Assisted Human Reproduction (CAHR) recommend the gruesome practises of human cloning and experimentation on human embryos?

Science has proven beyond a doubt that life begins at conception. Even common sense tells us that human life has to have a definite beginning - the moment in which something which was not previously there is suddenly created - and this moment is called conception. The Irish Constitution protects life, but, right now elements within the Government are seeking to decrease those protections to clear the way for human cloning and experimentation on human embryos.

In 2001, the Government established

the CAHR and charged it with investigating all aspects of assisted human reproduction, including human cloning, experimentation on human embryos and In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF). Right now, the Committee are deliberating about their findings and will shortly report back to the Government with their recommendations. The fact that the Committee's panel of speakers, at their only public conference, was loaded with those who have vested interests in AHR, calls for grave concern.

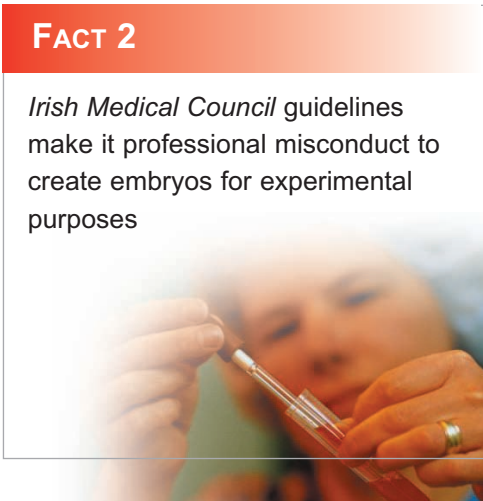
Yes, there is a lot of money to be made in embryo research, but it would be tragic for the unborn and for Ireland, if principle were traded for profit and human life became treated as little more than another product, as something to be manipulated and disposed of.

FACT 1

Article 40.3.3 of the Irish Constitution protects unborn life. In last year's abortion referendum, voters rejected the notion that human life begins only 'after implantation', and instead retained the existing law, thereby maintaining the protection of life from the moment of conception

FACT 2

Irish Medical Council guidelines make it professional misconduct to create embryos for experimental purposes



The Committee's deliberations have been anything but transparent. Although they invited public submissions, no one knows what the public asked for because the Committee have not revealed that information. And their conference was, of course, by invitation only.

This lack of transparency - in this day and age - is clearly unacceptable. But, thanks to the conference's panel of speakers, the public were given a glimpse into the thinking of the Committee...

The Committee's first speaker, *Baroness Warnock*, made it clear to the conference that she did not accept the idea of rights for the unborn - at any stage - and expressed opposition to the whole idea of human rights as a universal concept to be applied to everybody.

In January of 2003, she told the House of Lords that, '*You cannot respectfully pour something down the sink - which is the fate of the embryo after it has been used for research, or for anything else.*'

Fortunately, the *Irish Medical Council* have already spoken on this issue, and it's clear that they believe their members can perform all medical treatments without recourse to destroying, much less experimenting on, human embryos.

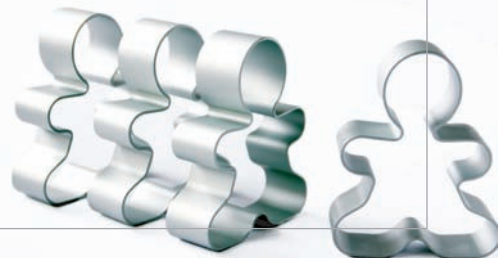
Why should the Committee, and in consequence, we, the Irish people, be told how to think about such a fundamental issue as human life by so-called 'experts' who are so obviously biased and who themselves have vested interests in the extension into Ireland of the unethical and inhuman practices of human cloning and experimentation!?!

FACT 3

The CAHR has stated that 'the definition of the unborn is crucial', since human embryos cannot be frozen and later destroyed, nor can experimentation on unborn human life take place where that life is protected from the moment of conception

FACT 4

The Irish Government have **opposed** an EU resolution seeking to **ban** all forms of Human Cloning



HUMAN LIFE IS NOT A PRODUCT

No sensible person is opposed to interventions of an ethical kind to remedy ailments or infertility, if such remedies are available and workable. But, unfortunately, with so much new technology at its disposal, Science, and increasingly Government and big business, seem to ask whether a thing can be done rather than whether it should be done.

Perhaps the allure of big contracts and quick profits have so blinded the promoters of embryonic experimenta-

tion and research that they can no longer see the humanity of the young life before them. But rather than be given approval to abuse and destroy human life, they should be encouraged by the Government, by the medical community, and by society to explore methods which do not cure one person by killing another.

Human Life is clearly not a "product" to be used. It is something which deserves our admiration, respect and protection in our laws.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- 1 Write to or phone the *Commission on Assisted Human Reproduction* and tell them that you are opposed to any process which subjects Early Human Life to harm or destruction. You can reach them at at 31/35 Bow Street, Dublin 7.
T: (01) 8870900. **F:** 8870910. **E:** info@cahr.ie
- 2 Ask your family and friends to do the same
- 3 Distribute this leaflet in your area to inform your community
- 4 Bring one of the detailed booklets (accompanying this leaflet) to your GP and encourage him / her to contact the Medical Council
- 5 Order more leaflets / booklets from the address below