

The Secretary
House of Representatives
Standing Committee on
Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are against the cloning of human beings for any purpose.

Science can and does argue that cloning could benefit mankind. Some of the reasons given for this technology include human spare parts and even human "lab rats". I have not heard one reason for pursuing this technology that does not degrade the human life that has been created.

As Christians we believe that all life comes from God and that cloning can not succeed unless God allows life to occur in the scientists lab. Because of this, if human cloning was successful, we hold that the resulting person will be an individual who is deserving of complete equality with those born by natural means. We also believe that this equality is something that will not be allowed to these individuals by the science community and the general population.

Would a human clone be allowed to live a normal life. Their entire life would be a science experiment, investigating their longevity, any complications that occur, etc. They would be given no choice in this. And who would protect them from the exploitative clutches of the tabloid media.

Also, the sourcing of cells for cloning from foetuses, whether for whole human clones, or for growing human organs is outrageous. Will we condone the reduction of unborn human beings to a farm for cells. I realise it is standard scientific behaviour to dehumanise unborn children by calling them foetuses, but these are still humans who deserve more than to be considered just a source of human cells for scientific experiments.

We know that it is important for us as a nation to be technologically advanced and at the cutting edge of new technologies. But we also have to be morally responsible. Personally, I believe Australia should be focusing our efforts on renewable energy sources and clean fuels. These are future sources of great financial gain to whoever can make significant breakthroughs in this area.

Thank you for your time. I hope that I have explained our feelings on this matter sensibly and clearly and trust that the committee's findings will be maintain the rights and dignity of all Australians and humankind in general.

Yours Faithfully

Geoff and Cath Hale
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