

## Submission Regarding embryonic Cloning.

I wish to express concern regarding the bill regarding embryonic cloning which draws upon on Lockhart committee recommendations. It seems no regard has been given to the health of Australian women – as well as the lack of bioethics in mixing animal material (inter-species) a procedure where there is no evidence of benefits, animal genetic material would be mixed with human with unknown results that could prove harmful.

(1) For example, Recommendation No 14 of the Lockhart Committee review states:

"Use of excess Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) embryos in research should continue to be permitted, under licence, as under current legislation."

(2) Recommendation No 15: "Research involving fertilisation of human eggs by human sperm up to, but not including, the first cell division, should be permitted for research, training and improvements in clinical practice of ART.

(3) Recommendation No 17: "Certain inter-species fertilisation and development up to, but not including, the first cell division, should be permitted for testing gamete viability to assist ART training and practice."

This is bizarre as science, more like science-fiction – How can parliament justify this. We should fund humans trying to grow wings with equal scientific fact. The "so-called 'Korean Cloning research' has been exposed to be fraudulent – so how can the committees' recommendations be trusted.

(4) Recommendation No 22: "Fresh ART embryos that are diagnosed by pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (according to the ART guidelines) as being unsuitable for implantation should be permitted to be used, under licence, for research, training and improvements in clinical practice."

(5) Recommendation No 24: "In order to reduce the need for human oocytes (eggs), transfer of human somatic cell nuclei into animal oocytes should be allowed, under licence, for the creation and use of human embryo clones for research, training and clinical application,

including the production of human embryonic stem cells, as long as the activity satisfies all the Criteria outlined in the amended Act and these embryos are not implanted into the body of a woman or allowed develop for more than 14 days.

Regarding the issue of using women to harvest eggs – there has been concern for issues of safety and exploitation directly contradicts the

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After all;The UN General Assembly passed a political declaration last year “calling on Member States to avoid all forms of human cloning. The extraction of human eggs is an invasive, high-risk procedure with potentially grave consequences to the life and health of women. In August, the European Commission launched an investigation into a Spanish fertility clinic as members of the European Parliament suspected the clinic was targeting poor women immigrants. While Spanish law does not permit payment for egg donation, the clinic had been offering \$600 - \$1200 to pay for the "discomforts" suffered by women during the process of egg donation ,”

As an Australian Woman, health professional and mother I object to Parliament considering such a horrific disregard for women as people rather than potentially ‘egg machines.’”

History shows so called precautions or “limits,” are arbitrary. One only has to look at the early legislation of abortion in 1970’s – the line drawn is meaningless. Please reject this evil bill.

Sincerely  
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