

To the Senate Community Affairs Committee:

I would like to state my opposition to the bills proposed by Senators Patterson, Despoja and Webber.

The bills propose opening a field of research - namely cloning to create stem cells- without scientific founding. I also believe it is profoundly wrong.

No substantative science has been tabled to support the claims made by embryonic stem cell advocates. Moreover, cloning to generate stem cells (so called therapeutic cloning), is a technique that has never shown hope of success.

As such I can only suggest that they support this research as opposition to 'religious morals' dictating the future of science and medicine. While I understand with this concern, I do not believe they appreciate the full implications of promoting research on human embryo's. As history has proven many times, crossing certain ethical lines in the name of advancement may lead to a perceived technical advantage, but lessen our respect for all things human.

Which do we choose? I hope and believe that we can seek non-embryo destructive means of generating stem cells and continue the good work done with adult stem cells.

Sincerely,
Gabriel James
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