

Dear Senators,

I am writing in concern regarding the recommendations of the Lockhart committee on Research Involving Embryos Act 2002 and the Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002.

As an Australian citizen, a member of the society under the Australian government, and a fellow human being, I **object** to the proposals made by the Lockhart Committee, which overall calls to amend laws to support cloning.

As Australians, we give all a fair go and a chance to live. What kind of law supporting the experimentation of human embryos upholds these universal values?

As a human being, I respect human life. I am not in favour of creating life in order to destroy it, or manipulate it.

I sincerely implore the Senate Committee to go slowly and be wise, and step back and rethink about all the consequences and the gravity of such a negative and immoral impact the Lockhart recommendations will discharge upon the Australian society, and human society as a whole.

It is horrendous to see that an official committee would permit such recommendations in order to “advance scientific research”. Is not scientific research intended to be for the benefit of human life and uphold human dignity as its number one concern? I cannot to begin to imagine what sadness and discord cloning and abuse of human embryos will bring to human society.

When science is directed towards serving humanity, much goodness and gratitude bears fruit among peoples. You will have most likely benefited from such humane research, such as cancer treatments, organ transplants, body operations, life-saving surgery, rehabilitation, physiotherapy, nutrition, immunology and much more that humane scientific research has enabled in Australian society.

But when science is used against humanity, abusing and manipulating human life, can you not see in foresight what rotten fruit it will bear? The millions of human embryos discarded (what a people they could have been!); the women mistreated and left hurting after having embryos taken from them and used in demeaning experimentation; the billions of taxpayer’s money wasted on unethical, unsupported, and inhumane research, especially when there has been huge success in the area of ethical adult stem cell research and the benefits it proposes; and all the inevitable dissonance this inhumane and fraudulent research brings.

What kind of society are we building and funding if we make commodities of human people? Is not all of humanity of dignity and esteem, deserving life and respect? In Australia, where freedom is treasured and respected, it is a grave concern that this valued freedom is being degraded into such foolish and debasing thought and research of reproductive technology and cloning.

I hope that as a committee representing the Australian people, reflected in the Australian law and constitution, you will uphold and defend the dignity of human life.

Yours sincerely,

Michele Perez