

The Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
3 October 2006

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding Senator Kay Patterson's proposed Bill to remove the existing prohibition on human cloning that was passed unanimously by parliament in 2002.

In 2002 Senator Patterson stated, "It is wrong to create human embryos solely for research. It is not morally permissible to develop an embryo with the intent of truncating it at an early stage for the benefit of another human being."

If it was morally wrong then, how can it be morally all right four years later?

In all that I've read, there is no real need for cloning or SCNT (somatic cell nuclear transfer). At present adult stem cells are proving both safe and effective for both research and therapies and are used in 72 human conditions whereas embryonic stem cells are currently usable for none.

I also speak as one who knows what it is like to live with a very disabling illness (14 years) with the hope that a cure might soon be found, yet I would not want one embryo created and destroyed in the process of finding a cure.

Please uphold the present prohibition on human cloning.