

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to fully support the recommendations of the Lockhart Review.

I commend the Federal Government for allowing a debate on the matter of Stem Cells.

It is very concerning that such open and transparent debate could be polluted by emotive and baseless commentary focussed on non-scientific grounds.

This is the 21st Century and we should as a society be intelligent and balanced in such debate. The community is entitled to an expectation of structured discussion supported by objective evidence, rather than personal opinions based on one's traditional beliefs.

The quality and skills of the individuals involved on the Lockhart review are without peer. Their recommendations are balanced and are based on considered protocols. Increasingly our society is recognising the importance of this topic area and will not in the fullness of time accept a debate that is not considered fully on its merits.

I urge all parliamentarians to consider the debate on fact and merit, not on supposed populist views. To do so in the context of increasing community interest/awareness would result in an unsustainable future policy position.

I would be willing to speak in an informed manner on this topic in any forum deemed appropriate

Alex Malley