

Submission to the Senate Enquiry

Legislative Response to Recommendations of the Lockhart Report

Assumptions

All moral and ethical positions are based on a philosophical/religious under girding, even the religion of atheism.

My comments are based on the following assumptions;

God is;

God created mankind in his image and likeness;

Human life is of great value – higher than that of the rest of the biological realm;

Human ‘Personhood’ commences at conception;

It is wrong to destroy human life, from conception to old age – apart from the death penalty applied by the State to those who commit murder;

Comments

Embryonic stem cell research and cloning should be banned, as should the production of excess fertilized eggs in IVF programmes, as all these processes result in the conscious production of an embryo with its destruction as the known outcome.

Adult stem cell research has produced positive results which overcome immune rejection, while embryonic stem cell research has not produced similar results. Therefore embryonic stem cell research should be abandoned in favor of adult stem cell research.

Nothing has changed which should cause the current legislation to be further liberalized.

If scientists are leaving Australia for better paying jobs in embryonic stem cell research overseas, then let them go, but do not compromise the ethical position of the nation for prestige.

(Rev) Les Percy