Legislation to legalise the production of human embryos for experimentation, arising from the Lockhart Inquiry, will require a large volume of reliably available women's eggs.

The dangers of egg extraction on women's health has been highlighted by feminist writer and Professor Emeriti of Sociology at California State University, Diane Beeson. She is a pro-choice feminist who opposed the 2004 California referendum on state funding of human cloning. Appearing before a US Congressional hearing on stem cell research last March 7, she said that a common, powerful hormone used to hyperstimulate female ovaries to produce multiple eggs is Lupron.

Lupron has not been approved by the Federal Drug Administration. The FDA currently has on file over 6,000 complaints regarding Lupron, including 25 reported deaths. These complaints are yet to be investigated and analyzed.

Following the fraudulent claims by Korean researcher Dr Hwang to have cloned human embryos, thirty-five women's groups are suing the Korean government on behalf of women who have been harmed in the process of egg extraction.

I urge you to call for a moratorium on the creation of human embryos for experimentation due to the serious damage hyperstimulant hormones, on which there is a lack of medical research, will have on the health of many Australian women.

Yours truly.

(JOHN BARICH)