

## ANGLICARE SOUTH EAST

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Committee Secretary  
2551  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT

PO Box 99  
EDEN

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### Submission on Stem Cell Research

Dear Senators,

As you probably know there is a breakthrough in adult stem cell (ASC) research showing clear proof that stem cells taken from individuals can be used to generate cells for the treatment of all body parts of those individuals. This means that ASCs would not be rejected when implanted in the same individuals they came from. This is not the case with embryonic stem cells (ESCs) as these are generated at random, with the lifelong problem (and cost) of warding off the rejection threat. Invariably the cost of guarding against rejection will be borne by the public purse.

Other problems associated with ESC research concerning the 'farming' of material from women for this research can be a very dangerous process with heavy drugs used to induce the production of eggs. All these things and others (still not known) are not general knowledge in the Australian community and government decisions should not be made until the full picture becomes available. Also, there is the issue of ethics on cloning and how people accept the fact that ESC research destroys human embryos.

We all assume that Senate committees are a reflection of what is in the best interests of the public at large and that their reports do not reflect the interests of minority groups or the interests of individuals of the parliament. There is now compelling evidence that ESC research is not in the public interest and should be placed under moratorium as it has been in Canada.

Yours sincerely,

(Peter Rice)  
Director