

CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE

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UPDATE ON TERRI SCHIAVO CASE

On Friday October 22, a Florida judge refused to allow a new trial to determine whether subjecting Terri Schiavo to a painful starvation death would violate her Catholic beliefs. That is what will happen if her estranged husband Michael is allowed to remove the gastric tube that is providing her with food and water. Circuit Court Judge George Greer said he would not order a new trial requested by Terri's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler. They had requested the new trial saying that recent statements by Pope John Paul II show the Catholic Church opposes removing the feeding tubes of patients like Terri, causing their death. Terri and her family are active Catholics and they say ending her life would violate her Catholic faith. They argue Terri would want lifesaving medical treatment and rehabilitative care. **However, Greer approved a stay that prevents Michael from removing the feeding tube until at least December 6** so the Schindlers can have an opportunity to appeal his decision.

MORE ABOUT STEM CELLS

With the recent passage of California's Proposition 71, providing public funding of both adult and embryonic stem cell research, this topic continues to be a timely one. **Embryonic** stem cell research, of course, is morally unacceptable since it requires the destruction of a tiny human being in order to harvest the stem cells. Some claims are now being made that adult stem cells won't work as well for research since they are not malleable like the embryonic stem cells.

- *A recent Time Magazine article addressed the issue of embryonic stem cells being "malleable." What does that mean?*

Embryonic stem cells (ESC) are cells that have not yet been given their job description, whereas adult stem cells (ASC) have their job description (they are bone, fat, muscle, or skin stem cells, etc.). Because the ESC has not yet been told its job, it is more "malleable," meaning the scientist can more easily make the stem cell do what he/she wants it to do.

- *Is it true that adult stem cells are not malleable?*

On the contrary, researchers have made a lot of progress in molding ASC into different stem cell lines. Take, for example, blood and umbilical cord blood stem cells. They are being used to treat all kinds of diseases. Helen Blau, a leading researcher at Stanford in ASC has documented the malleability of ASC, so it is false to say only ESC are malleable.

- *Is malleability is a good thing?*

In embryonic stem cells, this malleability has also created problems in the lab with tumor formation. Because the ESC hasn't been assigned its job yet and can be molded (the supposedly good feature), it is also difficult for the scientist to control it in the lab, resulting in tumor formations. So overall, malleability is a case of good news and bad news.

So the bottom line is: embryonic stem cell research is not only unacceptable from a moral standpoint; there are problems using embryonic sources even on a practical level.

Life Chain 2004

By Judy Lagowski

On Sunday October 3, 2004 for SEVEN blocks on both sides of Mission Street in San Francisco, crowded with buses, cars and pedestrians passing by, we stood in quiet reflection from 2-3PM holding signs proclaiming: Abortion Hurts Children, El Aborto Mata Ninos, Abortion Hurts Women, and Adoption the Loving Option.

Filled with the virtue of courage, we are grateful to all, especially the Christian clergy who, over many years, have confirmed us in the **WAY**.

We are grateful for all those inspired to make the signs and all those who joined in proclaiming the **TRUTH**.

In our hearts we know, because of God's providence, infants will now be given the gift of **LIFE**.
And Jesus stood with us all.

West Coast Walk for Life

SATURDAY JANUARY 22, 2005

11:00 AM

SF Ferry Building to the Marina Green

Mark your calendars now!

Website: www.walkforlifewc.com

Women - and all people -
Deserve better than abortion

A bus is being chartered from the Concord, CA Area to the San Francisco Walk for Life West Coast. Contact this office if you are interested in reserving a seat. Cost: \$14 per person.

AROUND THE OFFICE

With the autumn of the year comes the annual payroll deduction charitable fund drives. Local Independent Charities, through the Combined Federal Campaign and United Way provide a major portion of our annual budget, and we were offered several opportunities to speak to employee groups about our organization, and provide materials to areas we were unable to visit.

Please consider CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE EDUCATION FUND as a designated agency on your charitable giving payroll deduction form. If you need any assistance in filling out the form, contact this office. Our CFC (Combined Federal Campaign) number is 5595.

Our website continues to draw students seeking information on life issues. We provide pamphlets and materials for student papers and speeches, as well as being available for interviews and classroom presentations. If you have an interest in working with students, or know of a possible speaking venue, please contact this office. We will provide training for future speakers.

The news media definitely “has our number!” We receive at least one phone call a week for a press statement, from the court cases on the partial birth abortion ban, to buffer zones around abortion mills. Your donations keep our phone line open and available for those in the press. We are always looking for press spokespersons. If you have an interest in a specific topic, or feel called to help in this important area, contact our office.

Our office phone is forwarded during non-business hours to increase our availability to people in crisis situations, from the woman in a crisis pregnancy situation to the family seeking guidance on end of life decisions. We ask our members to please limit your non-emergency calls to our regular office hours 9-12 Monday through Friday

SPECIAL PROJECT OPPORTUNITY –We are looking for someone (or a group of people) interested in sponsoring yellow page ads in your local phone book. Costs average \$20 a month. If you are interested in sponsoring a yellow page ad in your area contact this office 925-944-5351 or e-mail us callife@calright2life.org

WHO IS CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE?

This is the newsletter of California Right to Life Education Fund, a 501-c-3 organization established to educate the public about pro-life issues. We are an affiliate of the American Life League, headed by Judie Brown. Donations to us are tax-deductible and can be sent to P.O. Box 4343, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-4343.

California Right to Life Committee, Inc. is a 501-c-4 organization providing information on legislative issues affecting the right to life and pro-life political advocacy. CRLC, Inc. is not permitted, under IRS regulations, to offer a tax deduction for donations. \$24.99 annually is requested for a subscription to the CRLC legislative email updates list and can be sent to 1920 Monument Blvd #309, Concord, CA 94520.

Both share the same “no-exceptions” beliefs and the same dedication to promoting the Culture of Life, respecting all innocent human life from the single-cell stage to natural death.

Counseling for Abortion Alternatives

Annually we provide a listing of pro-life pregnancy help resources; Please keep this handy for future reference!

Birthright (800) 550-4900 www.birthright.org

Free pregnancy testing, support services, community resource information on housing, medical care referrals, infant & maternity clothes, and adoption referrals.

Nurturing Network (800) TNN-4-MOM (-4666)

www.nurturingnetwork.org

Support network for pregnant women. Educational, and employment assistance, as well as medical, residential and counseling services.

Gabriel Project (800) 910-0191 www.gabrielproject.com

Church based support system and pregnancy help hotline to assist anyone in need due to a pregnancy related crisis.

Pregnancy Centers (800) 395-HELP

www.optionline.org

Free pregnancy testing and counseling; information on abortion and other alternatives; medical, legal & community resource referrals; childbirth & parenting classes, maternal and infant clothing, baby furniture, adoption referrals.

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline 800-848-LOVE (5683)

<http://www.pregnancycenters.org/batesville>

The Crisis Pregnancy Hotline is committed to helping to provide pregnant women a place to call where they can anonymously receive counseling and support to allow them to make an informed decision about their pregnancy, referrals to agencies where she can receive financial and medical aid, clothes, and shelter.

America's Crisis Pregnancy Helpline

(800) 67-BABY-6 / (800-672-2296)

www.thehelpline.org

Provide education and information concerning prenatal care, nutrition, fetal development, or possible complications during your pregnancy, your options including abortion and adoption questions.

Project Rachel / After the Choice 1-877-HOPE-4-ME.

www.rachelsvineyard.org

A process to assist those suffering after abortion in a group setting, usually over a weekend, or several evenings; a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion.

First Resort Pregnancy Consulting

www.firstresort.net

Oakland 510-891-9998

San Francisco 415-409-TALK (8255)

Redwood City 650-261-9115

Free Pregnancy testing, counseling on all options, ultrasound services for women contemplating abortion prenatal care and medical consultation; parenting classes; referrals for maternity and baby supplies; adoption referrals; post abortion counseling.