

## **CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE**

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### **Taking, Making, and Faking Human Life**

by Ron Maxson

Jennifer Lahl, founder and executive director of the Center for Bioethics and Culture spoke at the November 13 Santa Rosa Diocese Respect Life Conference and shared with us how the California voters were deceived again by advocates for the "taking, making and faking of life." Approval of Proposition 71 in the November 2004 election committed California taxpayers to billions of dollars for highly speculative research banned in almost all the rest of the civilized world. Germany, France, Norway, and even Canada, to name a few, have all ban human cloning. California taxpayers will do what savvy businessmen already reject as unprofitable and unpromising: 3 billion tax-dollars (6 billion including interest payments!) will pay scientists to create, then kill human embryos as experimental victims in search of cures for older humans. Mrs. Lahl proposes arguments these researchers and the taxpayers should understand.

In spite of promises to use existing embryos, cloning will be the primary source of human embryos used for the California research. Couples attempting in vitro fertilization select the best from the lot they create to implant. Then the "leftovers" and imperfect embryos are stored in the freezer as possible future "wanted babies." In addition, scientists say the frozen embryos may have "freeze-thaw problems." What scientist wants any but the most perfect children to experiment on in the search for cures?

Mrs. Lahl pointed out that these monstrous experiments on human embryos are simply the next logical step in the path from convenient abortion to total devaluation of human life: state mandated support for euthanasia and assisted suicide.

She then shared a bit about post-humanism ethics rapidly permeating our culture. Sadly, the proponents of this ghoulish anti-human-life ethic are convinced they are on a quest for the good of humanity. They fail to heed the lessons of history and ignore millennia of ethical development from the Hippocratic Oath to the writings of John Paul II. These scientists argue that humans are "low-tech," in need of enhancement by molecular manipulation.

Just as Californians succumb to the false promises of the proponents of embryonic stem-cell research, citizens are again bombarded with proposals from the merchants of

assisted suicide and euthanasia. The radical autonomy proponents of the "Me Generation" and the "Quality of Life" crowd have plans to propose legislation again this year to our state government. The Center for Bioethics and Culture engages this ignorance with facts and reasoning couched in language selected to appeal to the Post-humanism mindset.

For the very best in answers to the challenges of the post-humanist takers, makers and fakers of human life contact:

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***3 billion tax-dollars (6 billion including interest payments!) will pay scientists to create, then kill human embryos as experimental victims in search of cures for older humans.***

### **Umbilical Cord Blood (Adult Stem Cell) Research Could Save the Lives of Thousands With Leukemia**

The New England Journal of Medicine reports that adult stem cell research using umbilical cord blood could save the lives of thousands of adults now suffering from leukemia. A study conducted in Europe found that after two years, adult patients treated with cord blood were as likely to be leukemia-free as those who received bone marrow. A U.S. study reports similar results.

Umbilical cord blood offers an advantage over bone marrow in that it is unlikely to attack a patient's immune system. Cord blood had been considered suitable only for children, but the just-released studies indicate it can be effective for adults as well. Approximately 16,000 American adults experiencing leukemia each year cannot find a suitable marrow donor, according to Dr. Mary J. Laughlin of Case Comprehensive Cancer Center in Cleveland. Cord blood transplants began in the 1990's, about thirty years after the first bone marrow transplants. It is estimated that adult stem cell transplants save 20 to 30 percent of patients who hope to develop new immune systems.

Umbilical cords that are normally discarded after birth could provide real hope for these patients. Meanwhile, Laughlin said, "These are very high risk patients who undergo cord blood transplants only as a last resort effort to stay alive. Even with a cord blood transplant, these patients often suffer from life-threatening infections. But

the fact is, without attempting this innovative therapy, none of them would survive."

More information on cord blood research and leukemia can be found at the New England Journal of Medicine website at <http://content.nejm.org>.

## West Coast Walk for Life

**SATURDAY JANUARY 22, 2005**  
**11:00 AM San Francisco Embarcadero**  
**Ferry Building to the Marina Green**

*Mark your calendars now!*

Website: [www.walkforlifewc.com](http://www.walkforlifewc.com)

**Women - and all people –  
Deserve better than abortion**

### AROUND THE OFFICE

By California Right to Life Education Fund Board

As we come to the "turning of the year" we would like to report to you our members the accomplishments and achievements of the past year. Recently our Administrative Director, Cecelia Cody, summarized this past year's activities. In addition to the resources available through CRTLEF newsletter and e-mail network communications, her review of activities during 2004 provides some appreciation for the direct contributions to the Culture of Life made by California Right to Life during 2004. We've included Cecelia's summary below.

#### ***SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2004:***

During 2004 we worked with students throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as students in Humboldt, Los Angeles, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Siskiyou, Yolo, Sutter and Yuba Counties. Students ranged in age from fifth grade through a Masters Degree Candidate, focusing mainly at the high school and undergraduate college levels.

We worked with a UC Davis student newspaper reporter last spring on a lead article about the morning after pill, and with several university journalism students, and numerous high school students throughout the state. We worked for several weeks with a group of students preparing for a debate at a Huntington Beach High School.

One of our bigger projects this past year was assisting a group of students and providing materials for a Marin county high school in forming a "Pro-Life Students Club."

We provided information tables at several respect life conferences during the year from Santa Rosa to Contra Costa County to the San Francisco and Peninsula. In 2005 we hope to expand to include an occasional conference beyond the San Francisco Bay Area.

We responded to media (press) calls throughout the year with information and/or press statements on current issues relating to life causes including Partial Birth Abortion, Morning After Pill and stem cell research. In 2005 if the Physician Assisted Suicide Bill is presented in the CA legislature we will probably have many opportunities to address this topic with the media.

We provided information tables in the following counties: Contra Costa, Marin, and Monterey, in shopping malls and flea markets where the general public gathers.

We received phone calls from throughout the state and provided counseling and referrals as needed.

In summary: we assisted students in at least 21 counties, talked to media representatives in five counties, participated in conferences serving residents residing in nine counties, did information tables in which we distributed materials to the general public in three counties, and sent our newsletter throughout the state.

As you review your year-end giving, consider a donation to California Right to Life Education Fund to assist in funding our proclamation of the Culture of Life amongst the prevailing Culture of Death. 2005 looks to be another year filled with opportunities to proclaim Life to the people of California!

#### **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.

We are continually expanding our database of pro-life folks. If you have a friend or associate you think might like to receive our newsletter and/or email communications, please send us the name and address and we will send them a complimentary copy of our newsletter.



***May you and your family and friends have a holy and  
blessed Christmas Season.***  
*Cecelia and the Board of Directors  
California Right to Life Education Fund*