

CALIFORNIA RIGHT TO LIFE EDUCATION FUND

P.O. Box 4343, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-4343 (925) 944-5351

E-Mail: callife@calright2life.org

Web Site: www.calright2life.org

Established 1981

October 2006

Women Want to Know About Abortion Risks, Survey Reveals

A new survey has found that women want to be thoroughly informed of all possible risks associated with elective medical procedures, and they generally want as much or more information when it comes to abortion.

The survey of 187 women seeking obstetric and gynecological services at a Wisconsin women's health clinic was published in the *Journal of Medical Ethics* in July. The women were given a short survey in which they were asked to state their preferences for information about elective medical procedures. They ranked the degree of information they preferred regarding alternative treatments and complication rates, and rated the severity of different types of complications, ranging in severity from headaches to death.

The results showed that 95 percent of patients wished to be informed of all the risks of a procedure and 69 percent wanted to be informed of all alternative treatments, not just the alternatives preferred by their doctor.

Moreover, in their ranking of the seriousness of complications, mental health complications ranked as very serious, only slightly below the risk of death or heart disease. This finding may be especially important to the abortion debate since recent peer-reviewed studies have linked abortion to increased rates of mental health problems, such as suicidal behavior, clinical depression, anxiety disorders, substance abuse, and sleep disorders.

Dr. David Reardon, director of the Elliot Institute and one of co-authors of the study, said that the survey "demonstrates that women have a high level of interest in being informed of any risk that is statistically associated with the procedure, including psychological risks. It also reveals that while some experts may consider some associations, such as a 10 percent higher risk of breast cancer, as relatively unimportant, most women would consider it to be very important to their decision making process."

Reardon also said the study refutes the claim doctors should withhold information about studies

identifying abortion risks simply because the abortion provider personally believes that future studies may someday disprove the earlier findings.

Citation:

PK Coleman, DC Reardon, MB Lee, "Women's preferences for information and complication seriousness ratings related to elective medical procedures," Journal of Medical Ethics, 32:435-438 (2006).

<http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2006/aug/06083003.html>

Do you know someone who might be considering abortion?

Make sure they get the facts first!

A LIFE depends on it...

1-800-395-HELP (4357)

UNICEF and Halloween

Halloween is just around the corner, with the annual "Trick or Treat for UNICEF." We would like to take this opportunity to educate our readers on the pro-abortion nature of UNICEF. For years, school children have been asked to sacrifice on October 31-to collect change for poor kids overseas rather than candy for themselves. What they may not realize is that they are helping to fund abortion, contraception and sterilization programs in the Third World.

UNICEF was formed [by the United Nations] in 1946 to take care of the war-torn children of China and Europe. It began as a very noble, worthy cause but it was swept up during the '60s in the old Malthusian theory that overpopulation is leading to world doom, and it has strayed far from its original mandate. Over the years, UNICEF has participated in the distribution of millions of abortifacient IUDs and contraceptives in countries such as Pakistan and China. In 1987, UNICEF formally endorsed a recommendation that "legal, good quality abortion services should be made easily accessible to all women." By 1992, UNICEF was lobbying for abortion in some countries where it is still illegal. In 1996, UNICEF issued a press release announcing it would be distributing "contraceptives and drugs to terminate pregnancies" to "a million starving refugees in flight along the border between Rwanda and Zaire."

UNICEF promotes itself and raises funds at Halloween by having children carry UNICEF donation boxes door-to-door. It is also financed in large part by U.S. purchasers of UNICEF's Christmas Cards. While contributions may help to provide food, clothing, medicine or the like, chances are they may also go toward various forms of birth control, abortion and sterilization.

Winifrede Prestwich, founding member of the Canadian political pro-life lobby Campaign for Life and author of "UNICEF: Guilty as Charged" sums it up best: "UNICEF is pro-abortion. They don't want poor children coming into the world."

UNICEF, as originally established, no longer exists. Indeed, UNICEF is no friend of children.

For more details, see

<http://www.all.org/article.php?id=10105> and

<http://www.all.org/article.php?id=10104>

Adult Stem Cell Research Study Provides Hope for Kidney, Liver Patients

Florence, Italy (LifeNews.com) -- Italian scientists have made advances in adult stem cell research that may provide new hope for patients suffering from liver or kidney diseases. The research team has identified kidney stem cells that helped kidneys repair themselves and the discovery could lead to new treatments.

A team led by top immunologist Sergio Romagnani said the new kidney cells appear to be able to turn into an array of other cells in the body. "Chronic renal diseases and terminal renal insufficiency are viewed as the medical emergency of the new century," Romagnani told a press conference, according to the ANSA Italian news agency. He said the team found that the adult stem cells repaired kidney damage in the mice used in the study. That's important because current treatments merely slow the disease but don't repair damage it causes. "This is particularly important because the drugs we currently have are only able to slow down kidney damage," he said, according to the ANSA report.

Because the cells can differentiate into bone cells, adipose (fatty tissue) cells and even nerve cells there is hope of helping to reverse degenerative diseases in those areas as well, he explained.

The team published the results of their new studies in the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*.

Meanwhile, one day after Romagnani's press conference, a team in Turin announced, in the latest edition of the journal *Stem Cells*, that the adult kidney cells are able to become pluripotent. "The progenitor cells identified by our team are able to differentiate into liver cells, bone cells, blood cells and even pancreatic cells that produce insulin," lead researcher Benedetta Bussolati told ANSA. "The differentiating capacity of these cells holds promise that they can be used in regenerative medicine such as cell therapy, an alternative to the use of embryonic stem cells," she said.

The studies show another alternative to embryonic stem cell research, which involves the destruction of human life.

<http://www.lifenews.com/bio1752.html>

FSU study: Abortion notification, consent laws reduce risky teen sex

By Jill Elish

Laws that require minors to notify or get the consent of one or both parents before having an abortion reduce risky sexual behavior among teens, according to a Florida State University law professor.

Jonathan Klick, the Jeffrey A. Stoops Professor of Law, and Thomas Stratmann, professor of economics at George Mason University, came to that conclusion after they looked at the rates of gonorrhea among teenage girls as a measure of risky sex in connection to the parental notification or consent laws that were in effect at the time.

The researchers found that teen gonorrhea rates dropped by an average of 20 percent for Hispanic girls and 12 percent for white girls in states where parental notification laws were in effect. The results were not statistically significant for black girls. The study will be published in an upcoming edition of *The Journal of Law Economics and Organization*.

"Incentives matter," Klick said. "They matter even in activities as primal as sex, and they matter even among teenagers, who are conventionally thought to be short-sighted. If the expected costs of risky sex are raised, teens will substitute less risky activities such as protected sex or abstinence."

In this case, the incentive for teens is to avoid having to tell their parents about a pregnancy by substituting less risky sex activities. In doing so, the researchers say, the rates of gonorrhea among girls under the age of 20 went down.

"This suggests that Hispanic and white teenage girls are forward looking in their sex decisions, and they systematically view informing their parents and obtaining parental consent as additional costs in obtaining an abortion, inducing them to engage in less risky sex when parental involvement laws are adopted," Klick said. "Unfortunately, the data do not allow us to differentiate between the possibility that teens engage in less sex or they simply have the same amount of sex but are more fastidious in their condom use."

The researchers ruled out the possibility that teens simply substitute risky sexual behaviors for which pregnancy is not a concern, such as oral or anal intercourse, because these activities still could transmit gonorrhea. The use of birth control pills also would not protect against the sexually transmitted disease.

The researchers used data from the Centers for Disease Control to determine the rates of gonorrhea for women by age and race for the years 1981 through 1998. Gonorrhea rates for teenage girls were compared to those of women 20 and older whose behavior would not be affected by the notification and consent laws. Using the rate of gonorrhea among older women as a control, the researchers were able to ensure that the decline in incidence among the teens was not simply reflective of an overall decline of the disease in the state.

Forty-four states, including Florida, have adopted laws requiring minors to obtain consent or notify one or both parents prior to an abortion, but the laws have been blocked by the courts or otherwise not yet enforced in nine.

<http://www.fsu.edu/news/2006/09/27/consent.laws/>

In California, if your daughter is under 18: She can't get a flu shot, she can't go on a school trip, she can't have a tooth pulled, without your knowing it. But an older boyfriend or school employee can take your 13-year-old daughter to a doctor who can perform a SURGICAL or CHEMICAL ABORTION upon her without your knowing it.

Promote the Parents' Right to Know and Child Protection ballot initiative, which will require a doctor to notify at least one parent 48 hours

Protect our Daughters

**Vote Yes on
Proposition 85**

*Support the
Parents' Right to Know and
Child Protection ballot initiative*

before performing an abortion on their minor daughter.

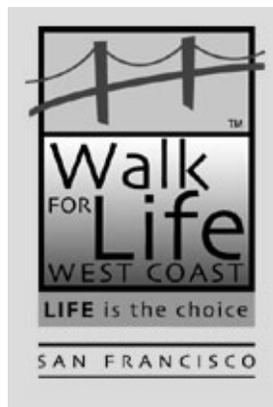
Upcoming Events

~ California General Election Tuesday November 7, 2006

Election of many statewide offices including Governor, propositions including the Parents' Right to Know – Prop 85. The last day to register to vote in California is fifteen days before the election, or Monday, October 23. For further information see the Secretary of State website relating to voter registration http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm If you would like to do a voter registration drive in your church or other group, contact this office for assistance.

~ 3rd Annual Walk for Life West Coast

**Saturday January 20, 2007
Justin Herman Plaza Embarcadero, San Francisco**



If you have joined us in the past you know what a heart warming and inspirational experience this annual event is. If you have never been on a Walk for Life, mark your calendar now for the 2007 West Coast Walk for Life and plan to join us for the biggest pro-life event on the West Coast!

Over 15,000 people came to support the cause of Life at last year's walk! An even bigger crowd is expected for 2007. Meet at Justin Herman Plaza at the Embarcadero, dress warmly, wear comfortable shoes,

and bring a bag lunch. For further information, please visit: www.walkforlifewc.com.

A special THANK YOU to all of you who support our efforts, with monetary donations large and small, and especially all who volunteer their time and talents by assisting at the Information Tables for Life. Your ongoing efforts allow us to reach out to the media, students and the general public, educating towards a greater respect for all life from fertilization to natural death. A donation of \$5 allowed us to provide a packet of pro-life materials for classroom a presentation touching 30–200 students. All donations, large or small, are gratefully accepted and prayerfully put to good use in the cause of Life. **All donations to California Right to Life EDUCATION FUND are fully tax-deductible.**

Do we have your e-mail address?

Do we have your current e-mail address? Several times a month we send e-mails to all who have expressed an interest in being included on our e-mail list. We are getting several e-mails back as undeliverable each time we do an e-mailing. Our newsletter continues to be our primary vehicle for disseminating information; however, occasionally we receive time-sensitive information and would like to be able to forward it to our members via e-mail.

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. Donations to the EDUCATION FUND are **tax-deductible** and can be sent to P.O. Box 4343, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-0343.

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 are affiliates of American Life League, headed by Judie Brown, and share the same “no-exceptions, no excuses” beliefs and the same dedication to promoting the Culture of Life, respecting all innocent human life from the single-cell stage to natural death.