

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I ask you to please vote against Senate Joint Resolution No. 18.

Embryonic stem cells are not the only option, stem cells are available from umbilical cord blood, bone marrow, spleen, and most other places in a child or adult body. New sources for adult stem cells are continually being discovered. These cells can be harvested without having to kill somebody. Is it right to kill one person in order to help another? We have a difficult time getting a death sentence for serial killers, but are willing to give the death sentence to hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of innocent babies because they aren't big enough to defend themselves.

Adult stem cells are capable of doing many things, such as; rebuilding for hip replacements, improving circulation in the legs, repairing severely damaged corneas, repairing heart attack damage, and curing diseases like diabetes, arthritis, cancer, and paralysis. More cures and uses are being found all the time.

Scientists are using adult stem cells to test outcomes on lab animals. They are able to regenerate tooth crowns, reduce stroke size and damage, preserve vision, repair damaged areas of joint cartilage, and are testing hundreds of other uses for adult stem cells. These tests are producing positive results.

The 'medical miracles' lie not in the empty promises of embryonic stem cell research; but in the tangible, healing results of adult stem cells using umbilical cord blood stem cells and a persons own stem cells.

I was brought up to be patriotic, to feel proud of my country, but it makes me ashamed to think that our country supports embryonic stem cell research which kills immature humans, let alone supporting the creating of life just to destroy it. America is no longer 'The land of the free and home of the brave'. It is the land of the free only for those big enough, strong enough, and loud enough to demand their freedom. As for Land of the Brave, it doesn't take any guts to starve our disabled and dissect our unborn. We treat our dogs and cats better than our fellow citizens!

In W.W.II, American's were shocked at the doings of Nazi Germany, yet this is exactly the kind of thing Hitler would have done. He would be so proud of our 'progress'.

Please stand up for the value of all people by voting no on SJ18.

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