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VIVA



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NEWSLETTER OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE OF NEW MEXICO

BORN TO RUN - THE FINAL RESULTS



There were 269 registered participants at this year's Born To Run. This is the biggest number in recent years, and we hope this number will increase next year and every year. We thank all those people who participated and made a lovely day, a great day for family, for life.

The winners of the different categories are:

- Men (15 and over) - **Chris Ela, 17 yrs – time 19.06.37**
- Women (15 and over) **Kate Sanchez, 41 yrs - time 2.46.42**
- Male Youth (14 and under) **Caleb Kelnhofer, 13 yrs – time 22.56.58**
- Female Youth (14 and under) **Anna Marie Curtin, 14 yrs – time 25.41.90**
- 1 Mile Male – **Paul Holloman**
- 1 Mile Female – **Denise Archuleta**

We want to thank the sponsors of Born To Run:

The Corriz Family, Xtreme Clean, Knights of Columbus Council 10560, Alex Higgs, NAPA Auto Parts - Grants, Simply Santa Fe, Ortega's on the Plaza, Steve & Jan Richards, People for Pete, Rita Adkins, Knights of Columbus Council 4205, Sandoval County RTL, Stuart & Julie Akers, Bobby J's Yamaha, Fred and Teresa Chanatry, Dauneen Dolce, Joyce Gammill, Charles & Lucy Griego, Lou and Joan Higgs, Diana Hunnicutt, Steve & Melissa Kunkle, Eunice McDowell, Monett Ford, Pearce for Congress, Herman Smith, The Color Works, Inc., Triangle Paving Co, Inc., Larry & Kitty Uhrich, Bill & Pat Wittman, Harry Waruszewski, John and Carol Zonski. All of you helped make this event a success.

We also want to thank those who donated food and services to the event: Wal-Mart - Carlisle, John Brooks on Candelaria, Albertsons on San Mateo, Sign Image Factory, Mike's Friendly Store in Moriarty, Jim Zanios Foods, and Farmers Market.

*Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah to those celebrating these holidays.
A Happy New Year To Everyone!*

COMMENTARY FROM THE EDITOR 2008 ELECTIONS

By Dauneen Dolce,
National Delegate/RTLNCM PAC Chairman

Since returning from the National Right to Life Committee's board meeting held on Nov. 11, 2007 representing the state of New Mexico, I have been inundated with responses to the endorsement made by NRLC for Fred Thompson. It is clear that

others in the pro-life movement want another candidate to be elected as the nominee to represent the Republican Party.

It brings me back to the year 2000 when George W. Bush ran for president. There were other pro-life candidates who also sought the Presidential seat: John McCain, Gary Bauer, Steve Forbes, Orrin Hatch, Alan Keyes, Elizabeth Dole, Dan Quayle, John Kasich, and Lamar Alexander (less pro-life than the others).

In time, many of these good people dropped out due to lack of funds and thus support. In the beginning the polls were all over the place with different groups giving support to their favorites. In that particular year National RTL decided to endorse a candidate they felt was pro-life and was viable. They endorsed George W. Bush, who did go on to win, despite losing a few primaries before the Republican convention.

NRLC was greatly criticized at that time as not being pro-life, not picking the most pro-life candidate, and for being "political" over being pro-life. The same language is being used this time around. However, trying to make sure a pro-life candidate will be the nominee and not one you would have to support holding our nose over a pro-abortion candidate, Rudy Giuliani, the board bit the bullet and chose Fred Thompson on his consistent voting record and his pro-life philosophy.

Is he the perfect candidate? No, there never has been one. Even our dear Ronald Reagan once supported abortion in legislation when governor. However, we overlooked that when he realized he was wrong. So too we have done that with other candidates. Fred Thompson, while working for a law firm in 1991, once gave a few hours of advice to a pro-abortion group by making some calls on the Mexico City Policy. His voting record has been for the Mexico City policy, a vote based on his philosophy and not time required by the firm he worked for.

Thompson doesn't support a Human Life Amendment. Everyone who is pro-life wants such an amendment. NRLC has not changed course on this ultimate goal. However, this decision is made by the U.S. Senate, not a president. The reality is that it would take a change of 25-30 Senate seats to even get this bill passed by the Senate to get the two-thirds vote to pass such an amendment. With the current political climate, that is not going to happen in the next eight years. Further, it would take two-thirds of the state legislatures to pass an amendment. They too are not likely to be in the position to accomplish this. We just don't have the votes and won't for some time for a Human Life Amendment.

However, Roe vs. Wade is another matter, and within eight years there may be several possibilities of placing a Constitutional court justice that could swing the votes to dissolve the 1973 Roe vs. Wade ruling. That is where we should be focused.

It is essential we keep our options open, even with NRLC, and that we get behind the pro-life candidate that comes out of the whole process. It does not help to accuse people or organizations of not being pro-life or to make threats of non-support for these groups. That is cutting off what these groups can do for the movement.

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Commentary from the Editor... (continued from page 1)

In the case of NRLC, they have been responsible for getting many congressmen, and yes, President Bush, elected. They are the ones that lobby and get the pro-life legislation passed in Washington. Their educational efforts are many, and the impact they make is great. You may disagree, but do not be disagreeable. The opposition feeds on our confusion.

In the meantime, the RTLNCM-PAC is working on the questionnaire to be used with our state legislative candidates. We will endorse pro-life candidates in both parties when possible. This depends upon their answers and their voting records, if they have them.

There is so much we can and must do. So keep a positive attitude. This is always a winner.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES POSITIONS ON LIFE ISSUES

Previously, we provided the positions on presidential candidates as stated by NARAL, a pro-abortion group. We will now address some of these issues that have been provided by National Right to Life. We will continue to offer information on all the candidates.

STEM CELL RESEARCH

REPUBLICANS

Fred Thompson: "I'm for adult stem cell research, not stem cell research when embryos of unborn children are destroyed....There's ...promising development {with} adult stem cell{s}...We don't need to go down that other road."

Rudy Guiliani: "As long as we're not creating life in order to destroy it, as long as we're not having human cloning, and we limit it to that...I would support {embryonic stem cell research} with those limitations."

Mitt Romney: "I will not create new embryos through cloning or through embryo farming because that would be creating life for the purpose of destroying it." "Some stem cells today are obtained from surplus embryos from in-vitro fertilization. I support that research."

John McCain: Voted in favor of funding research that requires killing human embryos. "I do support embryonic stem cell research. I believe that we need to fund [embryonic stem cell research]."

Mike Huckabee: "I don't think its right to create a life to end a life. That's not a good health decision."

Ron Paul: Voted against funding stem cell research that requires killing human embryos. "Asking taxpayers to fund research that they could very well be opposed to ethically seems to me to be patently unfair."

Tom Tancredo: Voted against funding stem cell research that requires killing human embryos. "Stem cell research is nothing more than an attempt to minimize the value of an embryo."

DEMOCRATS

Hillary Clinton: Voted in favor of funding research that requires killing human embryos. "[L]et me be very clear. When I am president, I will lift the ban on stem cell research...This is ...one example of how the President puts ideology before science... And it's...why were going to send them packing in January 2009 and return progressive leadership to the White House."

Barack Obama: Voted in favor of funding research that requires killing the human embryo. "Embryonic stem cells can be obtained from a number of sources, including in vitro fertilization...We should expand and accelerate research using these embryos."

John Edwards: "I will do absolutely everything in my power to make sure that America as a nation is funding embryonic stem cell research."

Bill Richardson: "Congress must maintain pressure...to expand federal funding for the National Institutes of Health to conduct research on embryo stem cell lines."

Joe Biden: Voted in favor of funding research that requires killing human embryos. In a 2004 letter to the President, co-signed with 57 other Senators, urging the President to "expand the current federal policy concerning embryonic stem cell research."

Dennis Kucinich: Voted in favor of funding research that requires killing human embryos. "Embryonic stem cell research will continue with or without the federal government. [The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act] would have expanded federal research....I disagree with the President's decision to veto this important legislation."

Christopher Dodd: Voted in favor of funding research that requires killing human embryos. "Stem cell research turns embryos that would otherwise be discarded into the seeds...of science."

In the next newsletter we will cover views on *Roe vs. Wade* and all of these candidates.

BOOK REVIEW – ABORTING PLANNED PARENTHOOD

by Ed Wyckoff

Faithful *Viva Life* readers likely need little persuading that Planned Parenthood engages in deceptive practices and subscribes to reprehensible philosophies. But for anyone seeking a full indictment of the world's largest abortion provider, two revealing books are available. *The Grand Illusion* was reviewed in the November 2007 *Viva Life*. Now we will address *Aborting Planned Parenthood* by Robert Ruff.

Aborting Planned Parenthood covers much the same ground as *Illusions* – and is far from gentle in its criticisms of the abortion behemoth – but its approach is nonetheless more mild-mannered than George Grant's scorched earth style. Replete with charts, statistics, and mathematical formulae, Ruff's condemnation of Planned Parenthood more closely resembles a meticulous audit from a certified public accountant than it does a district attorney's brief.

In one sense, though, Ruff's indictment is even more devastating than Grant's in that it relies entirely on sources outside the pro-life circle – including, most remarkably, a set of some 50,000 medical records and other documents spirited away from a dumpster outside a Houston Planned Parenthood clinic! This has given Ruff an unprecedented inside look at Planned Parenthood operations, making his account an invaluable guide to the true nature of the abortion giant's methods and strategies.

Perhaps the most fascinating section of *Aborting* is the set of 92 clinic visit records in Chapter six, which contain profiles of individual patients and the comments of Planned Parenthood counselors on those encounters. There are surprises here for both advocates and opponents of abortion. On the one hand, the profiles fail to support much of Planned Parenthood's propaganda about the urgency for their abortion services: there are no victims of rape or incest, no mothers of deformed fetuses, and none who identified a pressing need for the abortion. On the other hand, the majority of patients identify themselves as religious, and fully one-third are married (in many cases, accompanied to the clinic by their husbands). Clearly, many of these mothers understood that a fetus is a human life and yet believed that an inconveniently-timed baby was nevertheless not worth preserving.

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But the incongruities do not stop there. Planned Parenthood counselors consistently press their patients to use the Pill, even while the profiles make it clear that nearly all the women and girls already on the Pill or other forms of birth control had become pregnant anyway. There is virtually no concern expressed by the staff over the danger of sexually transmitted diseases. And, astonishingly, the attitudes of the counselors seem most severe against those patients who appear to fully accept Planned Parenthood's view of abortion as carrying little more significance than having a tooth pulled. The demeanor of girls buying into this perspective is labeled "apathetic", "too casual" or "inappropriate", Ruff concludes, whereas patients who agonized over their decision and understood the horror of it were treated more sympathetically. In the latter scenario, it seems, the counselors regarded themselves as heroic caregivers, but in the former mere accessories to a meaningless tragedy.

Ruff's book contains many other well-documented insights, such as the ability of most patients to pay for their abortions without taxpayer support; the revelation from a poll of teenagers commissioned by Planned Parenthood itself that teens rejected many of the myths about sex most cherished and promulgated in the educational literature of the abortion provider; and the disparity between Planned Parenthood's public concern versus its internal policies regarding women's health. Taken together, Grant and Ruff speak in unison as they despoil the seemingly pristine image Planned Parenthood ceaselessly promotes of itself as a voice of reason on all matters sexual and as a valiant champion of women's rights. The contrast in styles is far less important than the underlying truths each strives to uncover.

PUTTING A STOP TO THE USE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS FOR ABORTION

At long last legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House that would stop giving taxpayer dollars to organizations that perform abortions. Sen. David Vitter (R-LA) has introduced S. 351, the "Title Planning Act," or H.R. 4133, the "Title X Abortion Provider Act" sponsored by Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN.).

"Taxpayer funds should not be given to organizations that are the backbone of the abortion industry such as Planned Parenthood," said Douglas Johnson, Legislative Director of National Right to Life, adding, "These bills do not call for a reduction in family planning funding, rather they prevent abortion from receiving tax dollars." S.351 and H.R. 4133 would deny federal family planning funds to non-hospitals that perform abortions, with narrow exceptions.

According to its 2005-2006 annual report, Planned Parenthood received \$305.3 million in "Government Grants and Contracts." The report also showed that Planned Parenthood performed 264,943 abortions in 2005, 20% of all abortions in the United States. While Planned Parenthood maintains that federal funds do not go for abortions, this massive infusion of taxpayer cash has helped build the organization into the nation's largest chain of abortions clinics. In addition, Planned Parenthood is heavily involved in pro-abortion lobbying.

Under the "Mexico City Policy," taxpayer funds are prohibited from funding private foreign family planning domestic organizations that perform or actively promote abortion. A consistent policy should be adopted for family planning programs. "It makes no sense to guard taxpayer funds from being used by performing and promoting abortion organizations abroad but at

the same time provide millions to the biggest abortion provider in the United States," said David N. O'Steen, Ph.D., NRLC Executive Director.

According to a recently published detailed and hard-hitting exposé by journalist Charlotte Allen, "Planned Parenthood's Unseemly Empire" (*The Weekly Standard*, October 22, 2007), "abortion accounted for at least one-third, probably more, of Planned Parenthood's \$345.1 million in clinic income reported for the last fiscal year." Allen's entire article can be found at:

<http://www.weeklystandard.com/Content/Public/Articles/000/000/014/223livny.asp>.

P.S. For the sixth year in a row, President Bush has invoked the Kemp-Kasten Amendment and withheld \$34 million in U.S. funding to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Planned Parenthood's Unseemly Empire by Charlotte Allen

To encourage everyone reading this newsletter and others why it is important we contact our Congressional leaders to ask them to sponsor S.351 and H.R. 4133, we want to give you some of the information Charlotte Allen provided in her article. Please read the whole article for the information that will help you write your letters and e-mails.

In mid-July the top three Democrat contenders paid their respects to the Washington-based political arm of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Planned Parenthood has become the gatekeeper to the treasures of the progressive-minded Hollywood and the Silicon Valley millionaires and billionaires (along with their family foundations) who increasingly control the purse-strings of the Democratic Party during national elections, and for whom the right to unrestricted abortion for females of all ages is sacred cynosure of the Constitution. Hillary Clinton was endorsed by Planned Parenthood for her 2000 and 2006 Senate race.

However, while the schmoozing went on, a news story sent most high-profile non-profits into a PR tailspin. On August 1st in West Hartford, Connecticut, charges of criminal abduction were filed against a 41-year-old dog trainer named Adam Gault. For nearly a year, Gault had allegedly hidden a runaway girl, now 15, in the house he shared, Hugh Hefner-style, with two girlfriends (26 and 40 and also charged with crimes arising from the incident). He had gotten the teenager pregnant and procured an abortion for her on May 1st at a Planned Parenthood clinic in West Hartford. About a month later, police discovered the 15-year-old locked in a storage space under a staircase at the residence of Gault, a onetime workplace acquaintance of the girl's stepfather. The girl's mother had been searching frantically for her since her disappearance from home in June 2006. A DNA test on the corpse of the fetus indicated that Gault was its father. It is not known what sort of identification the girl, too young for a driver's license, presented the clinic's administrators. She apparently wouldn't name the father, and it is all but certain that no one at Planned Parenthood went out of their way to inquire into the circumstances that led to her pregnancy.

These allegations of egregious statutory rape involving a girl of 15 and a polyamorous middle-aged ne'er-do-well are a part of any number of incidents at Planned Parenthood clinics in which personnel have either looked the other way or stated their willingness to look the other way in the face of state laws requiring the reporting of suspected sexual abuse of minors under the age of 16. In one of those cases, the abuser, now serving a five-year prison sentence, was the victim's own father, who had

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Planned Parenthoods Unseemly Empire...

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forced his daughter to share his bed and have sex with him starting at the age of 13. Another involving the same Planned Parenthood branch in Cincinnati, Ohio, also featured a 13-year old; this one impregnated by her school soccer coach who accompanied her to the clinic and paid for the abortion with his credit card, while she showed the staff her junior high school ID card. Spokesmen for Planned Parenthood have insisted that such cases are flukes (or that the victims lied, relieving the clinics of responsibility), and that clinic staff are carefully trained to report all instances of suspected abuse.

Planned Parenthood, the mammoth tax-exempt non-profit with 122 affiliates nationwide, reported revenues in June of a record \$903 million during its 2005-06 fiscal year. This organization is exalted among Democrat politicians, celebrities, a largely sympathetic and even sycophantic press, and the gigantic family foundations set up by such tycoons past and present as David Rockefeller, David Packard, and Bill Gates, and the ubiquitous George Soros - all of whom have donated hundreds of millions of dollars to Planned Parenthood causes.

Planned Parenthood also trades on most people's relaxed attitudes toward sex and birth control. Most Americans see nothing wrong with planning births via whatever medical devices are deemed safe and effective. Nor do Americans object nowadays to young people, even teens, having sex before marriage, as long as it is not outrageously promiscuous or coercive - and under such circumstances, birth control strikes them as essential.

Although most Americans are distressed by abortions, and many would like to restrict it by varying degrees, few would ban the procedure altogether, and many who are morally repulsed by abortion do not believe that women should be restrained by law from choosing it.

Someone has to do the dirty work. Planned Parenthood steps in: it's the *nice* abortion provider. Providing *safe health, trust, medical standards, high quality, and training* is how they present themselves.

They also portray the organization's abortion business as a tiny droplet in an ocean of medical and social services focused on prevention of pregnancy - along with such worthy works screening for sexually transmitted diseases and reproduction-related cancers, and even prenatal care. "Prevention is the cornerstone of our services," declares Planned Parenthood's online financial report for 2005-2006. The organization boasts that 81% of the clients at its 860 "health centers" nationwide received some sort of contraceptive.

This organization boasted a total of \$839 million in net assets for the 2005-06 fiscal year, up from \$784 million for the previous financial year. Planned Parenthood also reported a \$55.8 million surplus of revenue over expenses last fiscal year, which would have amounted to a tidy 6% profit. Thanks in part to government generosity, Planned Parenthood has more money than it can spend. Whatever one might think personally about abortion and birth control, it is certainly worth asking whether U.S. taxpayers should be digging into their pockets to support a cash-engorged organization that reported that it's outgoing president, Gloria Felt, an annual compensation package approaching \$1 million.

Underneath much publicity from organizations, Dear Abby, *Vogue* magazine and fundraisers by Whoopie Goldberg, the Dixie Chicks, and others with free entertainment and the veil of the media, contrary to the impression it works hard to create, Planned Parenthood focuses obsessively on abortion, providing ever more abortions every year, reaching out to an even-younger

clientele. The 3% they say of total services provided is abortion is very misleading. Every abortion has contraceptives, a pelvic exam, and a lab test for STD's - you get the picture. In terms of absolute numbers of clients, one in three visited Planned Parenthood for a pregnancy test, and a little less than one in three had an abortion. Moreover, in terms of revenue generated, abortion accounted for at least one-third, probably more, of Planned Parenthood's \$345.1 million in clinic income reported for the last fiscal year.

A no frills (local anesthesia that does not hinder cramping), no complications, first-trimester abortion costs about \$400. Multiply that by 294,943, and you have \$106 million, more than 10% of Planned Parenthood's entire revenue from every source last fiscal year. Furthermore, many abortions cost more than \$400. An extra \$150 or so buys better IV-administered anesthesia; a "medication abortion" (RU-486 plus a second drug that induces labor) costs about \$450; and a second-trimester abortion can run well over \$1,000, depending on complications. As the abortion rate is dropping in the nation, Planned Parenthood's market has increased.

Abortion is a cash cow for Planned Parenthood - a "non-profit" organization. The Right to Life Committee of New Mexico is also a non-profit organization, and other than paying for one full-time and two part-time employees and an office and the expenses it entails, all money goes toward what we advocate: education to change hearts and minds.

The concept that legal abortion makes abortion safer also has to be questioned. In the same article we are reminded that Planned Parenthood has had its share of horror stories. There is Erica Goode, a 21-year old who died in California of toxic shock syndrome allegedly caused by cervical dilators left inside her by a nurse at a Planned Parenthood facility as a prelude to a second-trimester abortion that never took place. Ericka was never told that the dilators could spread infection. Her mother filed a malpractice suit against Planned Parenthood in June.

Planned Parenthood has been involved in four of the six deaths from the abortion pill RU-486 between 2003 and 2006. Planned Parenthood has been running its own tests on mifepristone (RU-486) throughout the 1990s (thus making it available to some women without FDA approval, which came in 2000). RU-486 is administered in a fashion that does not comply with the FDA's protocols. This puts their clients' lives at risk. This is what happened to 18-year-old Holly Patterson in Hayward, California. She died from the improper use of RU-486. By the way, RU-486 is paid for by Medicaid in New Mexico, and Planned Parenthood uses it.

Planned Parenthood has been found not to report suspected sexual abuse by adults with underage girls as shown in the Adam Gault case. Planned Parenthood heavily markets both its advocacy positions and its facilities and services to teenagers (via, among other things, ads on MySpace and MTV), and its huge clientele of high school students living at home (one affiliate, Planned Parenthood of Hawaii, told the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* in 2001 that a third of its clients were teens "with little or no money"). In recent years Planned Parenthood has opened a series of "express" storefront branches at shopping malls apparently aimed at funneling mallrats to its full-service clinics elsewhere. Planned Parenthood Golden Gate launched a "Tell a Friend" marketing campaign that included free movie tickets and a chance to win an iPod as rewards to teens for sending their classmates to Planned Parenthood clinics. They have designed a website, Teenwire, pitched specifically at adolescents. They use many other tools to reach the youth of America.

In all these endeavors there is an implicit promise by Planned Parenthood that no outside adult, especially the parents of teens in question, will learn what any individual young

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Planned Parenthoods Unseemly Empire...

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person is up to. Planned Parenthood mounts intense advocacy campaigns and court challenges to the laws in 35 states that require at least one parent either to give consent to or be notified of a minor child's pending abortion. (Since 1985, Planned Parenthood has testified against the parent involvement laws the Right to Life Committee of NM has backed.)

A study reported in 1992 in the journal *Family Planning Perspectives* found that 62% of first-time births to teen mothers had been preceded by experiences of molestation, rape, or attempted rape with male-offender age 27.4 years. The Guttmacher Institute reported in 1995 that more than 40% of mothers age 15-17 had sexual partners three to five years older; nearly 20% had partners six or more years older. The confidentiality principles run squarely up against the laws in every state, typically bearing criminal penalties that require healthcare workers to report suspected incidents of sexual abuse or statutory rape to law enforcement. Life Dynamics, a pro-life group, launched a sting operation and hired an actress to call more than 800 abortion clinics nationwide, including many Planned Parenthood clinics. She told them she was a 13-year-old girl who needed an abortion, except that her boyfriend was 22, and she didn't want him to get into trouble. The reported response at 91% of the clinics (including Planned Parenthood) was: Don't mention your boyfriend's age when you come in and all will be well. "Otherwise, there's going to be a lot of stuff going on that you're probably not going to want to have happen," said a receptionist at a Planned Parenthood facility in New London, Connecticut.

This is just some of the information provided from this article by Charlotte Allen. You should read the whole article to be better informed.

Do we want our money going to an organization that makes money off our donations, does not care about the safety of the women or girls who come to its facilities, and that breaks the law and encourages others to break the law?

We must do everything to get S.351 and H.R. 4133 passed to rid ourselves of this organization and to truly protect women and children of this nation.

In the January *Viva Life* there will be information on the sources of Planned Parenthood's money.

BREAKING NEWS ON STEM CELL RESEARCH

As has been stated before, The Right to Life Committee of New Mexico opposes embryonic stem cell research because it requires the killing of a living human being. However, we are fully in support of stem cell research that can bring cures and treatments for diseases and human health needs without the destruction of life.

We are able to do much right now with adult stem cells to cure some forms of leukemia, some immune system diseases, and repair organs, muscles, and nerves.

It now appears even more will be able to be done. Scientists have discovered a method to have skin cells mimic stem cells. If this can be done, the debate about stem cell research could end.

Scientists from two research groups have found different recipes to give ordinary skin cells the power to turn into virtually any kind of human tissue. If the recipes live up to their promise, they could usher in an era when a person's own cells could be manipulated to mend a broken spinal cord, heal a damaged heart, or regenerate other failing tissues.

However, in the current state, the recipes are too risky for dis-

ease treatment, and even the scientists behind the latest studies cautioned that therapies are still years away. They know much more research still needs to be done on stem cells and do not preclude the use of embryonic stem cells. We can only hope this will not take place.

The principle study was done at Kyoto University by Shinya Yamanaka, and the other study was done by Ian Wilmut at Edinburgh University. Ian Wilmut is known for the research that gave rise to Dolly, the first cloned sheep, a decade ago. He has been quoted as saying he plans on abandoning his cloning efforts to adopt the new approach.

This new method that does not require embryos at all or even unfertilized human eggs uses a technique of slipping a set of four genes into skin cells in a specially prepared culture that coaxes the cells to behave like an embryonic stem cell. These cells become "pluripotent" – that is, they're capable of turning themselves into virtually any tissue type in the human body, including neurons and heart tissue. They also exhibit many of the other biochemical properties of embryonic stem cells, although they're not genetically identical to stem cells.

This must not let us be distracted from the successful use already obtained from the use of adult stem cells, which includes a person's own blood cells, placenta cells and cells from anionic fluids, cells from a person's skin, baby teeth, hair, etc. to name a few that have already been used to repair or cure human health problems.

ADULT STEM CELLS OFFER NEW HOPE FOR HEART PATIENTS.

Samuel Cohen, a dentist, had a diagnostic test at a Phoenix hospital that revealed he had 99% blockage in his left main artery – a situation that led to surgery for a five-way bypass. However, his heart problems continued. His doctor, who happened to be the founder of the Arizona Heart Institute, decided to withdraw cells from Cohen's thigh muscle. The cells were cultivated in a lab and then injected into the dead muscle in Cohen's heart. Bypass surgery opened blood flow, while implanted stem cells healed the heart. As a result, Cohen became the first patient to graduate from Arizona Heart Institute's heart stem cell program. **Six years after the procedure he's faring well.**

This is not a unique story. Dr. Tim Henry of the Minneapolis Heart Institute estimates that there are around 1,000 successful adult stem cell implants for hearts in the U.S. and another 1,000 in foreign countries.

The use of adult stem cells may help the 200,000 to 300,000 people in the U.S. who die each year before medical help is sought. About one million patients visit the hospital each year with a heart attack and one out of five deaths is due to a heart attack.

The following people see a bright future using adult stem cells to cure or repair hearts: Donald Orlic, Director of the National Genome Research Institute; Dr. Nabil Dib, Chief of Cardiovascular Research at the Arizona Heart Institute; Dr. Amit Patel, Director of the Center for Cardiac Therapy at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Director of Cardiac Stem Cell Therapy at the McGowan Institute of Regenerative Medicine; and Dr. Raimondo Ascione at the University of Bristol in England. All of these men have had great success using adult stem cells to treat and cure their patients. This list is growing, and the research is coming up with more answers for heart disease, as well as all the other diseases and health problems of this world. We must have hope, and we must not kill an innocent human to save anyone.

**RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE
OF NEW MEXICO**

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**HEALTHCARE IN THE
UNITED STATES**

Viva Life has had many articles on healthcare plans being offered by various political candidates. It has also covered legislation that deals with health at the national level and sometimes the state level. The purpose is to give information in the hope people will incorporate this information when electing their congressional and state candidates who are in positions of making life and death decisions.

In 2007 our nation came very close to passing a law that would have limited the choices of senior citizens to spend their own money to save their own lives. The CHAMP Act (Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act) passed the U.S. House in August. The legislation would *effectively end the right of older Americans to spend their own money to save their own lives* by eliminating the Medicare Advantage and private fee-for-service options in Medicare. Under the current options in Medicare Advantage plans, senior citizens can choose health insurance whose value is not limited by what the government may pay toward it. These plans can set premiums and reimbursement rates for providers without upward limits set by government regulation. This means that such plans are not forced to ration treatment (euthanasia) as long as the senior citizens are willing and able to pay more to choose them.

The CHAMP Act would have eliminated the private Medicare Advantage option. Since citizens are required to participate in Medicare, rationing and denial of lifesaving medical treatment – without the private fee-for service “escape valve” – amounts to government-imposed involuntary euthanasia.

Fortunately, the U.S. Senate's version of the legislation did not contain language threatening Medicare coverage. The Senate refused to consider the dangerous language forcing the pro-rationing House leadership to back down. The perilous Medicare rationing was removed from the final bill.

However, the battle to protect the lives of older Americans is not over. The Senate Finance Committee is currently working on a bill to bundle the Medicare issues together for consideration by the full Senate and House. The threatening aspects of the CHAMP Act may re-emerge in this legislation.

We must ask our Congressional and Senate candidates their views on the CHAMP Act. We do not want to find ourselves only being able to receive treatment from Medicare and when not provided to be denied getting treatment. Who decides who gets what and where and when?



**MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

I understand that the Right To Life Committee of New Mexico (RTLNCNM) is a non-sectarian, non-profit organization dedicated to the right to life of all innocent human beings from fertilization to natural death; that this organization takes a stand only on those issues that are directly related to abortion, infanticide and euthanasia.

I support the goals of RTLNCNM, including a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and hereby make application for membership (renewal) as follows:

- Individual — \$20.00
- Corporate — \$40.00 - for business organizations
- Family — \$30.00
- NRL News Subscription (\$5.00 with paid membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Wish to: (check one)

- Register to vote
- Re-register

I am a registered: (check one)

- Republican Democrat
- Other

Signature Required

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