

Right to Life of Central California



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Right to Life of Central California eNewsletter

June, 2013

Scientists Report First Successful Human Cloning Attempt

by Josh Brahm

It was four years ago that while presenting a talk called "Human Cloning: Truth vs. Science Fiction," I predicted that scientists would successfully clone human beings within ten years. It appears that I was correct. [NPR is reporting](#) that a team of scientists at the Oregon Health & Science University have worked out the necessary steps to clone a living human embryo that is able to live long enough to produce embryonic stem cells. They have published their research in [this weeks issue of Cell](#).



I argued in that talk that my primary concern about human cloning is not that it's "playing God," but that we will dehumanize the new human being we've "created" in the lab. Notice the way the NPR article talks about the living, human embryos that were created, the same embryos that because they were able to live for several days, made the experiment a success:

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

Pro-Choice Person Converts After Thinking About the Gosnell Case

This is exactly what we've been hoping would happen: pro-choice people that think about abortion in a new way because of the Gosnell case, but not stopping there, but then asking a key question: **"Is there a morally relevant difference between what Gosnell did and other abortions that are less obviously barbaric?"**

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

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Save the Date!



5/16 - [Golf for Life](#)

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Op-Ed: Why I Hope Gosnell Doesn't Go to Hell

by Josh Brahm

I spent a lot of time yesterday sorting out my feelings about Gosnell and his conviction, as well as the way some extreme pro-life people are talking about him. Thanks to a few respected colleagues who took some time with me to discuss in private, I think I've worked out the three major feelings I have. I suspect most of my readers will agree with the first two, but have questions about the third:



- 1: I'm glad limited justice has been served.
- 2: I'm glad he's going to prison.
- 3: Yet, I don't want Gosnell to go to Hell. I'd rather spend time with him in Heaven.

Before you roll your eyes and move on, please give me the chance to explain why I don't think any of those statements makes me a weak pro-lifer.

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

Contact Your Legislator and Urge a NO Vote on AB 154 and AB 980!



List

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Would you be willing to help support our ministry to change hearts and save lives? [Click here](#) to make a secure tax-deductible gift. Thank you!

Quote of the Month

"Hi Josh, I just wanted to send you an email real quick to say that I recently discovered the podcast, and am going through the old episodes quickly. I really enjoy the arguments you and your guests make and the understanding tone and spirit of dialogue that you try to uphold. I guess that from listening from your podcast I've gone from being "somewhat pro-life, but not really passionate " to being much more active and passionate and activist-oriented about the issue. Keep up the good work!"

~ William, from Colorado but currently living in Hong Kong

Join the Club!



In addition to general donations, we're also looking for committed friends of life to join the "300 Club," Right to Life's monthly support team. For just \$25 each month, you can be an integral

Two bills that would result in many more abortions being performed in California have just been approved by the California Assembly and are now being considered by the California Senate.

- [AB 154](#) is authored by Assemblywoman Toni Atkins of San Diego. It would allow nurses, physician assistants and midwives to perform first trimester vacuum aspiration abortions, with only a few weeks of training in this procedure.

- [AB 980](#), authored by Assemblyman Richard Pan of Sacramento, would exempt primary clinics that perform aspiration abortions from established building code standards for facilities that do these surgical abortion procedures.

For the past six weeks, concerned pro-life citizens have made calls and visited the offices of over 70 Assembly Members and have attended and spoken at committee hearings on these bills. Legislators have been presented with evidence that lowering the standard of care for the women in California to benefit the abortion industry is not acceptable.

In light of an abundance of news from around the country concerning deplorable conditions in a number of abortion clinics, the lack of inspections and oversight of California abortion clinics is an issue that needs to be addressed before adding other elements that put women at risk- lesser trained abortionists, performing abortions in below standard facilities. Clinics run by doctors, licensed by the California Medical Board, are not required to be inspected. Those licensed by the California Department of Public Health are supposed to receive a full inspection at least every three years, according to the Health and Safety Code. But, visits to district offices of the CDPH (**including the one in Fresno**) to obtain records show that these inspections are rarely done!

Action Steps:

Now that the bills are being heard in Senate committees, phone calls to Senators, visits to their Capitol and district offices and town hall gatherings and attendance at committee hearings are crucial!

[Click here](#) to find out who your state Senator is. Go to his or her website to get the Capitol and district phone numbers and district office address. Make calls! Visit the district office! These are proven ways to make a difference in the outcome!

100 Days and Counting Until 40 Days for Life

The longest local prayer vigil for the lives of the unborn and their mothers & fathers begins in just over 100 days.

From **September 25th through November 3rd**, a prayer vigil will be held in front of Planned Parenthood's Fresno abortion facility.

At 6: the valley will kick off the 40 day prayer



part of RLCC's life-changing and life-saving work here in the San Joaquin Valley and across the U.S. [Click here](#) for more!

campaign with public prayer from pastors and spiritual leaders.

Join more than 50 churches and prayer groups across the central valley in prayer and compassion through the ministry of 40 Days for Life.

[Click here](#) to connect your church or prayer group!

On September 25, Fresno will join cities across the nation to **kick off** one of the **largest movements of prayer and fasting for peace in the womb**.

Also attend the Kick-Off Rally Wednesday Evening:

When: 6:00 PM, Wednesday, September 26th

Where: [N. Fulton St. north of Belmont Ave.](#)

What: Kick Off Rally of 40 Days for Life

Are **YOU** eager to be a part of a community of peace? Will you [connect](#) with other Christians across the valley in prayer? [Contact Right to Life](#) to find out more about this fall's city-wide peaceful prayer and compassion movement: **Fresno 40 Days for Life!**

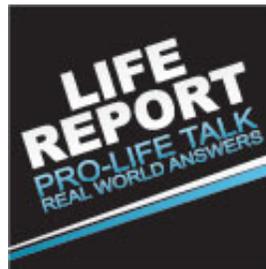
To help end the violence in our city and **BECOME A CULTURE OF PEACE**, JOIN the 2013 40 Days for Life Campaign!

[Click here](#) to receive updates for this Fall's prayer vigil.

EXCLUSIVE Interview with Shawn Carney!

After summarizing Abby Johnson's story, Josh asks 40 Days for Life co-founder Shawn Carney about his ministry as well as the state of the pro-life movement.

Questions include how 40 Days for Life leadership is encouraging participants to get involved in other pro-life ministries, including sidewalk counseling.



Shawn Carney from 40 Days for Life on the State of
the Pro-Life Movement

New Bodily Rights Paper is Published!

by Josh Brahm

NEW

BODILY RIGHTS PAPER

DE FACTO GUARDIAN: A Response to the Strongest Version of the Bodily Rights Argument for Abortion

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD](#) 

I've been privileged to participate in a philosophy study group with folks from the JFA community. Stephen Wagner, writing for the group, just completed a first draft of a long-awaited paper detailing a response to what we believe is the toughest pro-choice argument, a bodily rights argument that claims that a woman has a legal right to refuse to allow the unborn to use her body, especially in the case of rape and very early in pregnancy (a version of the Violinist argument). Our response is available for download [here](#).

With this paper, we hope to push the dialogue about bodily rights arguments in a direction we haven't seen very prominent in the literature or on the web. We look forward to hearing what you think!

About Us

Right to Life of Central California (RLCC) is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization whose fundamental purpose is to restore societal respect and effective legal protection for all human beings from fertilization until natural death.

RLCC's projects include the [Life Report radio and TV show](#), 40 Days for Life, and conducting multimedia presentations for youth and seminars for adults to educate on the life issues. Visit our website at RightToLifeCA.org.

