



# Prince George ProLife Society

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**NEWSLETTER NO. 26**

**September 2005**

## PROLIFE SOCIETY

This newsletter is a publication of the ProLife Society of Prince George.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**President:** Laura Fowlie  
**Past Pres:** Barbara Gobbi  
**Secretary:** Patricia O'Neill  
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Members of the ProLife Society believe in the right to life of all human beings from the moment of fertilization until natural death. We support only the use of peaceful means to promote the aims of the society.

## COMING EVENTS

### October 2005

- 2** LIFE CHAIN  
Along 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
2 – 3 p.m.
- 19** AGM  
Moose Hall  
663 Douglas Street  
7:00 p.m.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Once human life is devalued at its core, a chain of devaluation begins that travels outward from the source and cheapens all life. This chain is not visible in any single person's decision. From legalized abortion to child abuse and infanticide, to convenience killing of the disabled, to passive euthanasia, to active euthanasia, to state funding and promotion of all of these – there is no moral stopping point."

-William Gairdner, *The War Against the Family*

We have often spoken of this "Slippery Slope," as described above by William Gairdner. It is the gradual decline of moral values, so gradual at times as to be almost unperceivable. Over time, the shock value dissipates and then little or nothing surprises or offends us.

We now find ourselves facing another decline on that slope. Private Member's Bill C-407 has been introduced with the intent of amending the Criminal Code to provide for the right to "die with dignity." This bill would legalize both euthanasia and assisted suicide for those who are suffering from chronic physical and mental pain. It is important to note that persons can qualify for euthanasia or assisted suicide even if their illnesses are not terminal and even if they have refused effective medical or psychological treatments.

We know that once this is allowed, the ramifications will be devastating. "Bill C-407 allows a person to kill another person, if that person asks to die. Once society allows one person to kill another, it becomes impossible to protect persons who are otherwise viewed as burdens on society." – Alex Shadenburg, *Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition*

We must, together, fight the passing of this bill by writing or phoning our elected officials and by encouraging others to do the same. I know that sometimes we feel like giving up. We feel that nothing we can do will make a difference. But we also know, as Christians, that with Him, all things are possible. That doesn't mean, however, that we can just stand by and do nothing and hope that God will do it all. We are called to do what is right. We are called, by the creator of us all, to stand up for life. He uses us as his arms, his legs, and his voice to effect a change in the world. That is the reason we were put upon this earth!

Denise Mountenay, author of *Forgiven of Murder...A True Story*, and founder and President of Canada Silent No More, is a witness to the importance of speaking out, sharing the truth, and doing what is right. Silent No More is a campaign that reaches out to women who are the suffering victims of abortion. And those who are reaching out to them have also been scarred by abortion. They share their stories of physical, psychological and spiritual damage and they provide hope, compassion and healing to all who are hurting.

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*(President's Message cont.)*

The Executive of the ProLife Society is pleased to have Denise as our guest speaker at the ProLife Annual General Meeting on October 19, 7:30, at the Moose Hall on Douglas Street.

*Laura Fowlie, President*

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## **Quebec Eliminates Religious Instruction in Schools**

*QUEBEC CITY, September 9, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)*

– In a measure that deprives Christian parents the constitutionally guaranteed right to religious schooling, Quebec lawmakers “quietly” passed a law over the summer that effectively eliminates all religious instruction from public schools in the province.

On June 15, the province passed a law eliminating all religious education in public schools, to be replaced by 2008 with a course in ethics or religious culture if desired. In 1997, Quebec enacted a constitutional amendment that eliminated denominational religious schools – an institution guaranteed in the country’s founding document, the British North America Act of 1867. The 1997 measure allowed denominational religious instruction to continue within the public school system – until now.

The Catholic News Agency also reported that there were no press releases from the Ministry of Education on the decision, nor were there any reports in the secular English press.

Education Minister Jean-Marc Fournier introduced Bill 95 in May, claiming the new rule would more effectively meet “the current social challenges and the needs of Quebec youth today.”

The Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops, along with other concerned parents groups presented a 60,000-signature petition to Quebec parliament that supported the maintenance of religious education in public schools. In addition, the Quebec bishops and the parent’s group made an appeal before a parliamentary hearing committee, arguing that Christianity is an important part of Quebec legacy that schoolchildren should not be denied. They added that the new program would likely contradict the values Christian parents try to instil in their children.

Ultimately, the petition and hearings failed. “The hearings were merely a façade,” said Jocelyne St-Cyr, who headed a concerned citizen’s group that opposed the change, as reported by the Catholic Times of Montreal. “The minister thinks that he has respected democracy but he has not.”

## **Study Findings Suggest over 6.7 Million Embryonic Children Have Died During IVF**

### **85% of Human Embryos Produced During IVF do not Survive till Birth**

*NEWHAVEN, Conn., September 9, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)*– A new study has confirmed that beyond all the loss of life that happens when in vitro fertilization embryos are frozen for storage and unfrozen for use, there is massive loss of life even after embryos are transferred into their mother’s wombs.

Researchers at Yale School of Medicine have found that 85 percent of embryos transferred during IVF fail to live till birth.

IVF specialists boasted last year that over a million children have been born due to IVF (see here: <http://www.ivf.com/overview.html>). However, with the results of the Yale study indicating that 85% of embryos transferred do not survive till birth, one can calculate that for a million children to have been born using IVF over 6.7 million other children died in the process.

Published in the August issue of *Fertility and Sterility*, the Yale study reviewed seven years of U.S. statistics from all the fertility clinics that report data on reproductive techniques. Director of the Yale Fertility Center, Pasquale Patrizio, M.D., professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences led the project.

Said Patrizio, “Something in nature has decided that these implanted embryos are not viable.”

*Citation: Fertility and Sterility, Vol. 84, No. 2, 325-530 (August 2005).*

### **Patrick Webb Essay Competition 2005–2006**

The Competition, sponsored by BC ProLife, is open to BC secondary school students, and is designed to encourage students to recognize the dignity of every human life.

Competition A – open to Grade 11 and 12 students

Competition B – open to Grade 9 and 10 students

Each competition has a first prize of \$300 and a second prize of \$200. For topics, rules and entry forms see “Events” page of our website: [www.pgprolife.com](http://www.pgprolife.com)

## **UK Allows Human Embryos to be Created With Two Mothers And One Father**

*LONDON, September 9, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)* – The UK’s Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority has reversed a ban preventing scientists from creating

embryonic children derived from the combined ova of two women with the sperm from a single father.

The need to combine the ova from two women is argued to be a necessary means to prevent mitochondrial diseases like muscular dystrophy being passed from a woman who carries the genetic trait to her offspring. By inserting the non-nuclear portion of the ovum from a woman free of the disease into the ovum of a woman who carries the disease, scientists argue they can prevent its transmission.

Newcastle University Professor Doug Turnbull and Newcastle Fertility Centre scientific director Dr Mary Herbert are spearheading the controversial procedure. US scientists claimed to have used a similar procedure to ensure 15 children born to mothers with mitochondrial disease were born without the disease in 2001.

Comment on Reproductive Ethics spokesman Josephine Quintavalle said, "This shows once again that the HFEA does not have any regard for public consultation and the views of the public," according to a BBC report. "It is undesirable to create children in this way. It will shock the world. This is playing around with early human life."

LIFE charity spokesman Matthew O'Gorman added that, "This decision is utterly unethical, abhorrent and contrary to public opinion. The HFEA are relentlessly imposing their libertarian agenda on the people of this country against their wishes: the government must act to disband it immediately."

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## First Human "Clones" Created Without Use of Sperm

*DUBLIN, September 9, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)* – The Roslin Institute, which also created Dolly the sheep, reported creating the first embryonic humans without the use of sperm – from the genetic material of the mother alone.

The group said they stimulated an egg to divide without the use of human sperm, to a stage of development where they hope they can "mine" cells for experimental research purposes. "At the moment we have not managed to get stem cells from these embryos but that continues to be our ambition," Dr Paul De Sousa said at the British Association's Festival of Science in Dublin, as reported by the BBC.

UK law allows the creation of cloned embryos for so-called "therapeutic" use – the tiny humans can be used in scientific research, but not implanted into a woman's uterus and allowed to mature into a viable baby.

Parthenotes – the name given the cloned embryos after the Greek word Parthenogenesis, which means "virgin birth" – when created in animals like monkeys often result in abnormal development.

The Roslin scientists said their eggs are derived from donor women who are undergoing sterilization.

"It is another example of Frankenstein science which illustrates how out of touch with public opinion these recent scientific developments are," said Life spokesman Matthew O'Gorman. "[The Roslin team] was granted a licence by an unelected, unaccountable quango."

The decision may appear to be self-contradictory, but advocates of human cloning for experimental research commonly maintain that cloning 'human beings' and cloning human embryos are qualitatively different activities. The fact remains however that reproductive cloning allows cloned human embryos to live until birth and beyond whereas therapeutic cloning requires that cloned human embryos be killed for experimentation prior to birth.

While also condemning reproductive cloning, Archbishop Renato Martino, the former Vatican representative to the United Nations, said in 2002 that therapeutic cloning is "an even more serious offence against human dignity and the right to life, since it involves human beings (embryos) who are created in order to be destroyed." He said therapeutic cloning "must be" prohibited, calling it an "exploitation of human beings, sought by certain scientific and industrial circles, and pushed forward by underlying economic interests."

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## Cleveland Abstinence Program's Positive Results Surprises Researchers

*CLEVELAND, Ohio, September 8, 2005, (LifeSiteNews.com)* – A recent study, just published in the American Journal of Health Behaviour, shows that "abstinence-until-marriage" programs have produced encouraging results among middle school students in Greater Cleveland.

The study was conducted by surveying 2,069 grade seven and eight students that had participated in the school-based program called "For Keeps", run by Operation Keepsake in Mayfield, OH. The program consists of five 40-minute sessions. The sessions stress abstinence-until-marriage, presents virginity as a "gift" that should be shared in marriage and emphasizes the dangers of teen pregnancy and sexual diseases, including HIV. Those students who were sexually active reported fewer sexual partners and sexual encounters five months later.

Reactions to the survey were mixed and will surely cause debate among sexual educators and condom advocates.

The lead author of the study, Dr. Elaine Borawski, commented in the Plains Dealer newspaper that the results were a surprise. The public health researcher at Case Western Reserve University said the federally tax funded program positively influenced sexually active adolescents. "Everyone says that kids who have had sex won't find programs like this relevant," said Borawski, who has reviewed Operation Keepsake's programs in the past. "It did seem that it resonated with them more than we thought."

While remaining cautiously optimistic, Dr. Douglas Kirby, a nationally recognized expert on sex education, was concerned that the study's short time frame of five months reduced its strength. Still, supporters of "abstinence-until-marriage" are encouraged and are pushing for more studies.

Critics, however, like Earl Pike, executive director of the AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland, unsurprisingly took the study's findings to task, calling them "disturbing." Pike stated that the government should curtail funding until a more rigorous, long term study proved that the programs work. "I wouldn't be proud to promote that abstinence programs educate young people to avoid proven methods like condoms that we know reduce risk and save lives," Pike said.

Pike's comments, however, fail to take into account that curtailing the funding of the abstinence program would logically reduce the program's effectiveness, thereby hindering an accurate assessment of its success. Globally, statistical evidence in Africa seems to support the findings of the Cleveland study. Uganda, which promotes abstinence-before-marriage programs has the lowest reported cases of AIDS/HIV while Botswana, a country that actively promotes condoms, has the highest rates.

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## **United Nations Official Slams US for Abstinence Approach to AIDS in Uganda**

*JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, August 31, 2005, (LifeSiteNews.com)*  
- The ongoing lament by Canadian condom activist Stephen Lewis continues as the U.N. secretary general's special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa vilified Christians and the Bush Administration for their emphasis on abstinence-only programs. He especially blamed the policy for causing a shortage of condoms in Uganda. The Bush Administration has supported the abstinence-only (in practice) AIDS program in Uganda, a country

that has seen great success and boasts one of the lowest infection rates in Africa. Uganda's infection rate is far lower than Botswana, for example, which promotes condoms and has the world's worst HIV infection rate. This year President George W. Bush's global AIDS plan has budgeted about \$8 million for abstinence-only projects in Uganda.

Lewis complained about the lack of condoms in a teleconference stating "There is no question in my mind that the condom crisis in Uganda is being driven and exacerbated by PEPFAR (the U.S. Administration's AIDS assistance program) and by the extreme policies that the administration in the U.S. is now pursuing in the emphasis on abstinence, ... That distortion of the preventive apparatus ... is resulting in great damage and undoubtedly will cause significant numbers of infections which should never have occurred." Lewis made his remarks in spite of the fact that the U.N. itself has warned about the inadequacy of condoms to prevent the spread of the disease.

Reuters quotes Lewis as claiming that "What PEPFAR has done is to have made it possible for a number of Pentacostal and more fundamentalist churches to pursue the abstinence agenda ... I think the administration and PEPFAR have to come to their senses ... to impose dogmatic policies is doing great damage to Africa.."

Lewis himself is dogmatic in his vilification of abstinence-based programs. Last year in Thailand the high-profile Lewis came unhinged at the conference after U.S. envoy Randall Tobias presented the proposal of abstinence and fidelity first. Lewis' antagonism against Christianity is also a matter of record. Prior to the passage of the 1969 Canadian Omnibus Bill, which permitted widespread abortion in the country, Lewis was an outspoken abortion rights promoter. As Ontario leader of the socialist New Democratic Party he influenced the party to a hard line on abortion, stifling all pro-life protest. As Canada's Ambassador to the U.N. Lewis accused the Catholic Church of being party to the genocide in Rwanda. Moreover, while Lewis was executive director of UNICEF, the Vatican pulled its funding from the UN Children's Fund for its persistent association with abortion and contraception promoting programs. Lewis' wife is former Toronto Star columnist Michele Landsberg, an exceptionally harsh critic of orthodox Christian morality.

In contrast to this ideological stand taken by Lewis and others, the Ugandan First Lady, Janet Museveni, last year encouraged young people to take the high road. Speaking at the official opening of an annual youth conference in Kampala, she told over 2000 young people, "You do not need sex at your age. Wait until you

are married. You can choose to fight AIDS by saying no and be able to stay alive."

She told the teens to ignore those who push condoms noting that companies which promote such products are after money. "Don't give your airtime to anyone talking to you about using condoms," Ms Museveni said. Adding she could "not be apologetic" for objecting to them.

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## Intelligent Design to be Taught in Australian Schools - Opponents Furious

*SYDNEY, August 29, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)* - After decades of teaching the theory of Darwinian evolution as though it were established fact, school boards in Australia may rethink their approach. The Intelligent Design (ID) theory is making inroads with formerly skeptical members of the scientific community now that the mathematical improbability of the random and spontaneous generation of life has been more thoroughly analyzed.

Australian Federal Education Minister Brendan Nelson told reporters earlier this month that ID would have a place with Darwinism should parents or schools be interested. This announcement coincides with an attempt by researchers at Harvard University to debunk the Intelligent Design theory, which is seen by many committed anti-religious secularists as a threat to their hold on the scientific community.

Some secularists are furious at the threat to their religious dogma that God could not have created the universe. Those scientists who have dared publicly to examine the case on its merits have faced severe professional sanctions, in some cases amounting to witch hunts.

A US-produced video used in Australia features Dr. Dean Kenyon, a Stanford trained biophysicist, who was censured by his departmental colleagues at San Francisco State University for allegedly teaching religion in his introductory biology course. Kenyon, no naïf in the academic world with postgraduate work at UC Berkeley, Oxford, and NASA, said that he lost his job for the mere mention that there were other theories than pure Darwinian random evolution. He fought the decision and has been reinstated.

Kenyon, co-author of the book, *Of Pandas and People: The Central Question of Biological Origins*, speaks of how his own research on the chemical origins of life and his examination of the fossil record caused him to question the naturalistic assumptions that allow most evolutionary scientists to ignore and reject all evidence of intelligent design in the universe.

Kenyon says on the video, "We have not the slightest chance of a chemical evolutionary origin for even the simplest of cells, so the concept of the intelligent design of life was immensely attractive to me and made a great deal of sense."

But the possibility of any religious influence has enraged the secularist scientific establishment and is seen as enough to condemn a researcher to the crank gallery. A senior lecturer in evolutionary biology at the University of New South Wales, Rob Brook, said that the presence of religious ideas automatically discredits a researcher.

About Kenyon, he said, "I don't really know what is it that's motivating him, and I don't think that we're told publicly what it is that's motivating him, but a lot of the prime people in the intelligent design movement appear to have had religious conversions of some type or another."

"They all seem to be people of deep religious faith," said Brook in an interview on Australian Public Radio, "so one has to argue, is it their religious faith that's driving the agenda, or is it their science and the scientific process? And I'd say it's the former."

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## British Favour Tightening Abortion Restrictions

*LONDON, England, August 29, 2005, (LifeSiteNews.com)* -The BBC and the Daily Telegraph are both reporting that attitudes about abortion are changing. Britain's 40 year old abortion law currently permits the procedure up to the 24th week of pregnancy. In a Daily Telegraph survey only 27 percent supported the restrictions as is. 58% favoured a 20-week restriction and 33% of women favoured a limit of 12 weeks or less.

The BBC reports that "according to the latest available data, more than 180,000 women in England and Wales had terminations in 2003, and a further 9,100 were carried out on non-residents. Less than 2% of those were performed between 20 and 24 weeks."

On the other end of the spectrum 87% of those surveyed favoured the legalization of assisted suicide. 67% thought people should be allowed to assist the suicides of close relatives without fear of prosecution.

The survey also found:

- 48% said abortion should not be free on demand on the NHS.
- 79% said it was acceptable to use stem cells to treat life-threatening or serious conditions such as cancer, heart disease and arthritis.
- 30% said they would be happy to allow cloning to help

infertile couples but 60% were opposed to cloning human beings.

- 43% said doctors should only be allowed to modify babies' genetic make-up to prevent the child suffering from serious genetic disorders.
- 77% said parents should not be allowed to select the sex of their own children.
- 68% said it was acceptable to use 'spare' embryos left over from fertility treatment for medical research.

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## **China Expert Gives Astonishing Talk on His Exposure of Brutal Forced Abortion Policy**

*TORONTO, ON, August 26, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)* - Stephen Mosher, president of the Population Research Institute (PRI), is one of the few North American academics that can legitimately boast the label of international spy. The one-time Stanford university doctorate candidate and internationally acclaimed population researcher has for years been on a blacklist of international spies by the Chinese government. His crime is his vocal criticism of China's murderous, anti-human rights forced-abortion, forced-sterilization policy.

In a talk this past Wednesday, aptly held at Chinese Martyrs Parish in Markham, Ontario, the soft-spoken anthropologist and sociologist related his experiences as the sole North American social scientist permitted to conduct research in China in 1979-1980. He was one of the first fifty U.S. academics allowed into the country under China's communist government.

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## **Canadian physician says JAMA fetal pain study seriously flawed**

*OTTAWA, August 26, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)* - Canadian Physicians for Life president Dr. Will Johnston criticized a study published this week in the Journal of the American Medical Association in which researchers concluded that a fetus likely does not feel pain before the third trimester, ruling out the need to administer anaesthesia to the fetus during second trimester abortions.

"One serious flaw with this study is that the researchers failed to disclose conflicts of interest arising from their ties to the abortion industry," Dr. Johnston said. The lead researcher of the study once worked for NARAL Pro-Choice America, Knight Ridder reported this week. And another researcher, Dr. Eleanor A. Drey, is Medical Director of Women's Option Centre, San Francisco's largest abortion clinic. She is also on the staff of the pro-

abortion advocacy centre, the Centre for Reproductive Health Research and Policy of the University of California San Francisco. "Would you trust a tobacco company to conduct research into the health risks of smoking and to objectively report the results?" Dr. Johnston asked.

Dr. Drey testified at the Partial Birth Abortion (PBA) trial in San Francisco in March 2004, stating that her clinic performs 2000 abortions per year, primarily on poor women, approximately 600 of which are performed at 20 weeks or later via D&E (dilation and evacuation, in which a live baby is dismembered by using an instrument to grasp body parts and pulling the pieces through the cervix). She testified she offers training in these procedures and she herself performs abortions, including "partial birth abortions"—the legal term used to describe the type of procedure banned by the PBA Act, in which a live baby is partially delivered before being killed. "We end up taking care of all the poor women who need abortions at 20 weeks and above for all of northern California," she testified. She said that if the ban on partial birth abortion were passed, it would have a large impact on the physicians at her clinic, due to fear of prosecution. "I think it would be very difficult for us to provide second trimester abortions," she said.

The impetus to ban the partial birth abortion procedure was triggered in large part by growing scientific evidence that the unborn child feels pain. Dr. K. S. Anand, the world's foremost authority on research into pain perception in fetal and neonatal children testified as an expert witness at another Partial Birth Abortion trial in New York, saying that the fetus feels pain by 20 weeks, possibly even earlier, and that the pain endured by the child during a partial birth abortion would be "prolonged and excruciating." "Such evidence is very damaging to the abortion industry," Dr. Johnston noted.

Referring to the study itself, Dr. Johnston pointed out that this study did not involve any new research to assess fetal pain; rather, this study was an interpretation of the results of previous studies. "And a number of those interpretations are just not scientifically grounded," Dr. Johnston said. The researchers refer to one study of 102 premature newborns, which used an electrical recording method (evoked potentials) to record the brain's responses to stimuli. That study found that signals are present at 29 weeks. "The researchers of this study use that as evidence to support their claim that pain is not felt until 29 weeks—yet they failed to inform the reader that that study of newborns involved only two who were under 29 weeks, but even they evoked a response, although slightly delayed compared to the rest."

Another weakness involves interpretation of studies that used electroencephalography (EEG) to measure brain activity. The researchers refer to a study that found normal EEG signals appear at 24 weeks which they dismiss in favour of another study which found that EEG signals representing wakefulness appear around 30 weeks and conclude from this that pain is not felt until 30 weeks. "They are assuming wakefulness is needed before pain can be felt," Dr. Johnston said "Wakefulness is a red herring. Premies sleep a lot, and their EEG—like ours—is markedly different in the waking or sleeping state. But if I hurt someone while they're asleep, they will immediately wake with pain. The key is that normal EEG waves were recorded as early as 24 weeks and this finding is discounted by the researchers." "Measuring pain response in the fetus is not easy," Dr. Johnston said. "They can't self-report, just as babies can't. But by every measure possible—facial grimace, withdrawal, release of stress hormones, change in pulse rate/breathing/blood pressure—they behave as we would. And as Dr. Anand has said, 'in the absence of absolute proof we should give the fetus the benefit of the doubt if we are going to call ourselves compassionate and humane physicians.'"

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## **Embryo Stem Cells Genetically Unstable after Long Cultivation**

### **Discovery may end hopes of using embryo stem cells directly in therapeutic applications**

*BALTIMORE, September 6, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com)* - Human embryonic stem cells have long been known to be unstable and difficult to control. In some cases, where they have been used directly in therapeutic trials, the use of embryo stem cells has been disastrous for patients. Now a researcher from Johns Hopkins University, an institution that has backed the use of embryos for research, has found that embryonic stem cells that are cultured in the lab accumulate genetic changes that may be linked to cancer.

Like a genetic game of "telephone" the longer the cells are cultivated, the more the genetic errors grow. Says Dr. Aravinda Chakravarti a geneticist at the Institute of Genetic Medicine of Johns Hopkins University in a report in the journal *Nature Genetics*, "These mutations we are finding are a much bigger problem."

Chakravarti's research team found that as they were cultured, stem cell lines went through 35 cell divisions and found that 90% showed changes in patterns of methylation – the process in which certain genes in a cell are turned on or off – 22% had mutations in mitochondrial DNA and 50% had major deletions or

amplifications in the DNA. Moreover, it was the connection between the particular genetic problems the cells developed and the formation of tumours that was most worrying.

"[I]f it turns out these cells really do become unstable over time," Chakravarti said, "then that would put limits on the practical life spans of the cells and their usefulness for therapeutic purposes."

Chakravarti told the *New Scientist* that a possible solution would be to use the cells only when they are new and before extensive cultivation and division. However, the use of embryonic stem cells for disease treatment depends upon a long process of cultivation and differentiation into particular tissue types. Chakravarti's discovery may end any lingering hopes of using embryo stem cells directly in therapeutic applications.

This discovery of the degradation of the genome of cultured stem cells comes at the same time a member of the UK's House of Lords has decried the hype surrounding embryonic stem cells. The news media and certain factions in the scientific community have long promised that the use of cells derived from embryos and aborted fetuses will cure diseases, usually naming Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and diabetes. Meanwhile all the news regarding real cures and treatments for these and other serious diseases from adult stem cells goes largely unreported.

Speaking on the eve of this year's British Association Festival of Science, saying that the business of science is not certainty but uncertainty, one of the UK's leading fertility experts and a supporter of embryo research, Lord Robert Winston said, "I think we need to be considerably more modest about our science. We do tend to hype up so many activities. The latest one in biology is the issue of embryonic stem cells. I view the current wave of optimism about embryonic stem cells with growing suspicion."

Lord Winston pointed out, at nearly the same moment as the discovery at Johns Hopkins, that one of the biggest problems with embryonic stem cells was that "cultured stem cells are inherently unstable. When grown in the laboratory, they often produced cells with chromosomal abnormalities."

Read *New Scientist* coverage:

<http://www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn7950>

Read Lord Winston's comments in *The Scotsman*:

<http://thescotsmen.scotsmen.com/index.cfm?id=18904...>

Read related *LifeSiteNews.com* coverage:

<http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2003/sep/03091103.html>

# Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, October 19 - 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.  
Moose Hall - 633 Douglas Street

Agenda includes: President's Report, Treasurer's Report,  
Business Arising, Elections

Guest Speaker: Denise Mountenay, President  
Canada - Silent No More

## Dessert Auction Evening



Denise Mountenay is reaching out to thousands of post abortive women across Canada. Author of the book *Forgiven of Murder . . . A True Story*, Denise has been publicly sharing the pain of her abortions on radio and television, at conferences and to youth gatherings. She has a powerful testimony and message that passionately reminds us of the humanity of the unborn child.

Denise is the founder and president of Canada - Silent No More, a nation-wide campaign to enable women to speak out about the psychological and physical consequences of their abortions. You may remember seeing Denise on CBC's NATIONAL news last year following the May "March For Life" in Ottawa.

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership:**  New  Renewal

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(Prince George ProLife cannot issue charitable tax receipts for donations)