

The Eye on Abortion

February 2008



STRANGE NEWS: A LOOK AT SOME BIZARRE STORIES FROM ABROAD

Dear Pro-life Friends,

Do you think you've heard it all? I doubt you've ever heard anything like the stories that I have to share with you in this newsletter!

With so much darkness involved in the discussion of abortion, it's nice to focus on an encouraging story once in a while that has to do with the lives of the unborn. The UK Daily Mail recently reported one of the most amazing, uplifting stories I have read in a long time. The text follows:¹

UNBORN TWINS SAVE MOTHER'S LIFE FROM CANCER!

London, England - Like any thrilled mother to be, Michelle Stepney cherished the first kicks she could feel from her unborn babies.

But her lively twin girls were doing more than simply making their presence felt. Each little kick was saving their mother's life.



Mummy's little lifesavers:
Michelle Stepney with twins
Alice (left) and Harriet

Unknown to her, Mrs. Stepney, 35, had developed cervical cancer. **Her unborn twins' constant kicking in the womb actually managed to dislodge the tumour** (Emphasis added).

It was only when Mrs. Stepney was taken to hospital with a suspected miscarriage that doctors realised she had cancer.

They told her the babies had saved her life. Without them, the cancer may not have been discovered until it was too late.

Then came another bombshell. In order to treat the cancer, she needed immediate chemotherapy and a hysterectomy, which would mean terminating the pregnancy.

Mrs. Stepney refused. "I couldn't believe it when the doctors told me that the babies had dislodged the tumour," she said.

"I'd felt them kicking, but I didn't realise just how important their kicking would turn out to be.

"I owe my life to my girls, and that's why I could have never agreed with a termination."

¹ UK Daily Mail, "How my Twins Saved my Life by Kicking Loose a Tumour While Still in my Womb," February 3, 2008

Instead, she waited for her lifesaving treatment until they had been born.



**9-week-old baby
"stepping" in the womb**

Now the proud mother of year-old girls Alice and Harriet, Mrs. Stepney has been given the all-clear.

"I was just in shock when the doctors told me what it was. When they said that the babies had literally kicked my tumour out, I just couldn't believe it.

"I knew I could have an operation straight away and it would cure me of the cancer, but that would mean getting rid of my babies and I couldn't do that.

"I had two lives inside me and I just couldn't give up on them - especially after they had saved me like this."

Doctors at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London agreed to give Mrs. Stepney reduced chemotherapy in the hope of stopping the cancer spreading during the pregnancy.

"The doctors had tried this with women who were pregnant before, but they hadn't treated a woman with twins before. I knew it was our only hope," she said at her home in Cheam, South-West London.

She had chemotherapy every fortnight and was constantly scanned to monitor the babies' development.

"The doctors didn't know what the chemotherapy would do to the twins, and the first time I had it, I dreaded what it was doing to the girls. But they actually carried on growing well."

The twins were delivered by caesarean-section 33 weeks into the pregnancy, in December 2006. Alice weighed 3lb 11oz and Harriet 3lb 5oz.

"They were born without any hair as a result of the chemotherapy, but other than that, they were healthy.

"When I heard them both let out a cry it was the best sound in the world."

Four weeks later Mrs. Stepney had a hysterectomy to remove the tumour. Tests showed the cancer had not spread.

The twins have just celebrated their first birthday and are thriving. Mrs. Stepney, an accountant, had a scan in December, which showed she was still free from cancer.



**12-week-old baby kicking
inside the womb**

"I've had wonderful support from my husband and I couldn't have got through it without him," she said. "I feel so lucky. And one day I will tell my daughters how they saved their mummy's life."

This is truly an amazing story. It highlights how even in situations that threaten the life of the mother, the unborn baby's life, or *lives* in this case, can be saved – as well as the mother's. Often times doctors recommend abortion in these situations, but there *are* alternatives. What an encouraging story in support of life!

Now, onto other "strange news," this time having to do with combining human and animal life. Yes...I said *animal* life!

MAN + ANIMAL = A BAD COMBINATION

British scientists are taking cloning to new levels...or shall I say depths. As unbelievable as it may seem, **scientists are now cloning human embryos using cow eggs.**

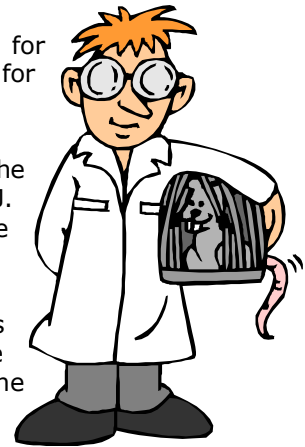
British lawmakers recently failed to pass an amendment to a bioethics bill to stop human-animal cloning there, and that failure has opened the floodgates for very *unnatural* experiments to take place.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) has authorized two groups of scientists to surge ahead with the grisly experimentation. Scientists at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and King's College London will begin to **inject human DNA into the cow eggs to create a hybrid that is 99 percent human and one percent animal.**

They justify their actions by noting a shortage of human egg donation for experimentation, and say they must continue to pursue cures for diseases, and that this is a good alternative.

Scientists must kill these clones within a few days and do not have the authority to use them for reproductive purposes. However, Wesley J. Smith, renowned American bioethics watchdog, fears that one day these clones could possibly be birthed, although science is not quite there yet.

"That isn't technically feasible yet, and besides, this early work is intended to perfect human cloning techniques so that it can be done reliably and efficiently. But if that is ever done, we will be quickly on to the other brave new world agendas such as fetal farming, learning how to genetically engineer progeny, and indeed, reproductive cloning," Smith warns.



THREE IS A CROWD

In a similarly bizarre story, coming again out of London, England, scientists have created a human embryo through in-vitro fertilization **who has three parents.**

A team from Newcastle University say they made the unborn child from DNA from one man and two women. However, the BBC reported that in the process **the team also used (killed) 10 human embryos from fertility clinics for their experiments.**

LifeNews reports:

The team believes the discovery could result in eliminating hereditary diseases such as epilepsy by ensuring that women don't pass on DNA defects to their children.

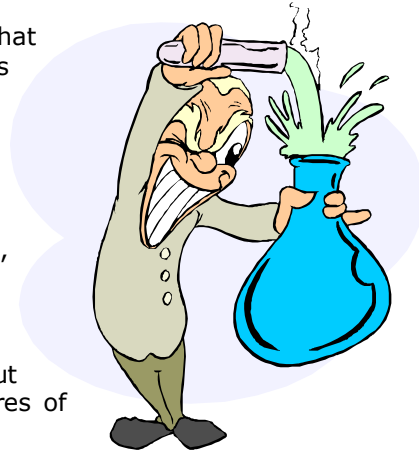
The idea targets problems with the mitochondria of DNA cells that are responsible for passing along some forms of disease to children such as liver failure, blindness, muscular dystrophy, diabetes and deafness.

According to a BBC report, the Newcastle scientists exchanged the mitochondria of cells from one woman with that of another.

Professor Patrick Chinnery told the BBC, "We believe that from this work, and work we have done on other animals that in principle we could develop this technique and offer treatment in the foreseeable future that will give families some hope of avoiding passing these diseases to their children."

But pro-life advocates are disappointed by the research, which required the destruction of human life to occur.

They (scientists) told the BBC that any baby produced by the process would have traits from three people but would only combine the looks and other external features of two parents.



IN CLOSING

The last two stories frightfully show us how far some scientists will go to either create the "perfect" children, or to "better" the lives for those of us who were blessed enough to make it past birth. Human lives are being toyed with and thrown away as if they had no value at all.

The only explanation I can come up with for why all of this strange experimentation continues to be performed on "the least of these" is that Satan hates humans, who are made in the image of God.

Regardless, **we cannot become weary in well doing.** We must continue our fight to preserve the lives of the unborn, no matter how twisted and tricky the issue becomes.

Standing for the unborn,

Corinne Cords
Executive Director – Self-Evident Truth
Email: info@selfevidenttruth.org

CANADIAN PRO-LIFERS ARE FIGHTING BACK!

SET has been receiving more and more orders from Canada, so recently we created a couple of "Canada-specific" panels for the current SET displays (to use in place of panels that have *American* statistics).

Abortion is not merely an American problem, but a worldwide problem. Please keep Canadians, and other pro-lifers, in your prayers! Thank you for your prayers and support for SET as well – it means so much!