



Christian Voices for Life

Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

This week's Topic: Market for Fetal Body Parts



Education: The sale of human parts is illegal. However, after the decision is made to have an abortion, women may be asked to donate the fetal tissue to be used for research. The way it works is this: the company in the business of providing fetal body parts rents space in the abortion facility. Although technically not “selling” the tissues, they charge researchers a fee for obtaining, preparing, and delivering the body parts. It is a money-making business for the company and an extra income stream for the abortion facility. ABC did a segment on 20/20 on the

market for fetal body parts on March 8, 2000, citing a price list of parts from a firm called Opening Lines, with prices in the hundreds of dollars for each organ. A more recent article mentions the possibility of using fetal organs (obviously late term) to be donated to adults or children in need of kidneys, livers, etc. Research in animals has shown that fetal organs will grow rapidly when transplanted to adults. Some may argue that if children are going to die by abortion anyway, there is no reason not to make use of their organs to benefit others. However, donating organs to science may make some women feel that the abortion is doing some good and is therefore justified. And of course the additional profit from fetal tissue gives the abortion facility even more motivation to sell abortions – encouraging what is best for them, rather than what is best for the mother. Late term, partial-birth abortions, are particularly favored for providing intact organs.



Prayer: Dear Father God, please touch the hearts of medical researchers who want to use fetal tissue in their research. Help them to understand that the desire to do good does not justify doing evil – that preborn human beings are children of God, not mere sources of tissue to be used as a commodity. Help women tempted by abortion to know that no amount of knowledge or benefit from using fetal tissue justifies the killing of their child.

We pray for the conversion of all who are involved in abortion and in the buying and selling of fetal body parts.



Action: Contact the National Institutes of Health Grant department at 301-435-0714 or grantspolicy@od.nih.gov. Tell the NIH that you think it is wrong to use taxpayer money to allow researchers to buy fetal body parts from aborted babies. Increasing the profit from abortion will tend to increase efforts to sell or coerce abortion. No amount of benefit from research will balance the evil of taking the life of a pre-born child, and their tissues should not be treated as commodities.

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