


The Definition of Life Bill

Proposed Legislation: The Definition of Life Bill [author: Mark D. Campo] Over the years, I have always been perplexed by how an intelligent Christian community silently allowed Roe v. Wade to ever stand. In concert, it could have been reversed within one to two years of this decision or prevented altogether if Christians would have had their thinking in gear. Our first mistake was to ever allow the pro-choice proponents to define the debate with the pro-choice argument. Such a position should never have been allowed to stand without challenging it with the right question for the court to decide. The real issue from the very beginning would have been very simple. If this basic premise would have been given as the central question for the court to focus on, the decision of Roe v. Wade would have never happened. And that question is, “when and where does life begin?” We know that ***the when*** is at conception and ***the where*** is in the womb. That’s not a religious statement nor an opinion. It’s a scientific fact.

To succeed, all that would have been necessary is for the defenders of life to provide the court with expert testimony from medical professionals within the medical community as well as other medical academics from the human life and biological sciences, verifying the conditions and qualifications of living entities and what constitutes life. The scientific proof has always been there. The pro-choice proponents simply *try* to prove their position, not with their eyes open to acknowledge the science, but with their mouths open through baseless, demagogic high-volume hyperbole as if their noise is suddenly superior to proven science. Moreover, they must protect their ears at all costs from hearing the truth. Otherwise, they might be forced to make a rational, ethical decision, and concede what they’ve always known in their heart of hearts...that abortion is the taking of a human life...more accurately, an “autonomous” human life.

INTRODUCTION.

A series of new studies have settled the argument despite the politically correct scientists who still hold on to the “clump of cells” theory. What makes this new research groundbreaking rests in the word



“autonomous.” These studies were published by Marta N. Shahbazi and a team of researchers from the UK recently and further supported in concert with a previous study in 2008 by Robert P. George and Christopher Tollefsen in their book *Embryo: A Defense of Human Life*** . And there are many other studies which are cited later in this document supporting these findings.

With the truth now clearly staring at both scientists and legislators, it is now incumbent upon a civilized society to right this gross misjudgment made in Roe v Wade. This natural truth now supported by scientific proof has thus reaffirmed this evidence, in terms of what constitutes an **autonomous human being** and when does that happen. Now firmly established in science, a civilized society must proceed with due process through a new and codified legislative remedy called **The Definition of Life Bill**.

This is a chance for Louisiana to be the state as the catalyst that reversed Roe v Wade. Much more importantly, it is a chance to terminate legalized infanticide once and for all time. This ground-breaking legislation is sure to be challenged in the courts by Planned Parenthood and other pro-abortion groups—which is exactly what we want and expect to happen. Other states such as Mississippi, South Carolina, Iowa, and many others over the years have attempted to pass Personhood laws and have failed. I believe that Personhood is not the right approach nor does it really express or describe what is needed to resonate with the public and those who will address what the legislation has failed to do before on so many attempts. The real need is to craft a **Definition of Life Bill**.

The timing is now...with a conservative pro-life Louisiana majority, a soon-to-be conservative pro-life majority in the federal government in the next election (which may not last), and with the encouraging positions expected from Judges Neal Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett, Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas, justice will finally have a more than reasonable chance to remove the scourge that Roe v. Wade has placed on our nation...allowing over 60,000,000 people to be killed before they got here to continue living outside of their mother’s womb.

The intent of Louisiana’s **Definition of Life** bill is designed to define both what constitutes an **autonomous human life** as well as when and where does it begin? The word abortion never has to be mentioned in this definition except when it comes to acts that would violate it.

Simply, whatever violates the definition of life will fall under this law (Louisiana Code) to include the unlawful termination of life AFTER its inception (conception), and will, by definition, make the practice of abortion either by the mother, a medical professional, or other third party unlawful and subject to judicial accountability.

The following scientific evidence not only proves the definition of life as an incontrovertible fact that has always been there, but it has reaffirmed and done so in a very recent study using the most up-to-date scientific maxims. There are assumptions and there are facts. This will be dealing with facts as defined as what constitutes proof, not only of human life, but autonomous human life based upon evidence. In this case, the proof and the evidence has now been scientifically demonstrated and acknowledged, that a human being in its embryonic stage of development, can exist, survive, and thrive outside of any external guidance, if allowed.

According to Collins' English Dictionary, as a countable noun, life is:

1. "the state of being alive, especially when there is a risk or danger of them dying.

"The state of being alive, especially when there is a risk or danger of them dying."

Prior to this new information, science had already answered this question, loud and clear. And It's always been really very simple. You take an egg from a female and a sperm cell from a male. The sperm penetrates the egg. And now, you have one cell with the complete amount of genetic material needed for everything a human could ever want to do. However, there are those in the science community heretofore who have maintained that it is just a "clump of cells."

In the latter, those cells must then rely on external guidance to survive because the claim is that they do not have control and no autonomy.

A simple clump of unimportant, disorganized cells would be akin to some random collection of differentiated cells grown on a plastic plate—they can divide if you make them, but there isn't any internal structure or organization present.

New Science—New Definition of Life--The Autonomy of the Fertilized Human Embryo.

Organismal autonomy, however, is defined as the freedom from external control, and based on that definition, it turns out that science can now precisely identify and prove when an embryo satisfies the definition of autonomy: from the very beginning. And they can do so with complete certainty.

In the recent study published by Marta N. Shahbazi, and colleagues from the UK (Cambridge University, May, 2016), it was demonstrated that the newly formed cell knows what to do post-conception, regardless of whether it receives signals from a host uterus. Shahbazi and colleagues demonstrate in their study that a fertilized egg—also known as a zygote, the “product of conception,” the early embryo, or one of many other descriptive terms—is now without debate, an **autonomous living being**. This one little cell, with its complete genetic content, can and does begin to divide and grow, even in an experimental dish in an incubator in the closet space of some unmarked lab.


Here’s what happened.

Shahbazi and colleagues thawed out frozen fertilized embryos that were at various stages of the first week (pre-implantation) development, and then grew these embryos past the point at which they would normally implant themselves into the uterine lining, using an in-vitro culture system of their own design. They reported findings that these cells can successfully organize themselves despite not being implanted in a uterus. This means that, as suspected, embryos know what they’re supposed to do to live, and they try to live, whether they’re in the mother or not.

As the authors state in the paper, their culture system “allows human embryos to undergo pre-to-post-implantation transition in vitro, in the absence of any maternal issues.

Programmed for Survival

This study is so critical to the definition of life and its defense because the researchers aren’t forcing those embryos to divide, nor or they giving any instructions. Non-embryonic cells are called “immortalized” because they have been manipulated such that they will divide when we grow them in plastic dishes in an incubator. But the embryos grown in this case were not manipulated or forced to keep going. They grew on their own accord.



A newly fertilized embryo may not know if it is “wanted,” but it does know that it wants to live. And they want to live even more so as they continue developing. Countless ultrasounds have revealed proof that babies react to negative stimuli in the womb as pain, that they naturally cry and suck, eat, sleep, move and yawn while living inside their mother. Dead things just don’t do that. A clump of mere cells do not have the **organized intelligence** to engage in such things. The embryo has two big missions from its moment of conception: one is to start dividing, and the other is to get from the mother’s fallopian tube down into the lining of her uterus.

The embryo needs to implant successfully because it only has enough organismal resources for a limited number of days—it needs to nestle in to the nutrient-rich endometrium of its mother to acquire more food for the journey.

Without nutrients normally provided by implantation, the embryo will die. But, as Shahbazi and her colleagues have demonstrated, if you supplement the embryo with nutrients, it will continue to fight for life. While it was already understood that the developing embryo communicates with the mother through signals and nutrient exchanges in the bloodstream, the research has now proven that the embryo has the equipment it needs to drive its own growth. **Thus, the data now show that fertilized embryos are autonomous human beings who are simply in an early stage of development.**

It’s quite interesting to note that even after the child is delivered out of its mother’s womb, that development of the human being continues for several years following, from strengthening its muscles when crawling so it can walk, to developing from adolescence into puberty. In fact, neuroscience has proven the male brain continues to develop physiologically until about age 30.

It has always been developing from the point of conception to implantation to transitioning from the original uterine environment to its new external environment after the mother gives birth. The child has always been **alive**, and it has always been a human being, wholly autonomous in the womb of its mother and no different than any other child considered to be a post-delivery live-birth.

The only difference between a new-born delivered two seconds ago and a person in the second trimester are the stages of their development. Neither is more, or less human than the other. Moreover, no scientist who has ever studied cells could say that a dividing cell is not alive. And now, no scientist can make the claim that a growing embryo lacks organismal autonomy.

The next question is what will legislators do with this new information? It's now time to begin writing this into the Louisiana code via a legislative action called **The Definition of Life Bill** using the above scientifically proven evidence as its foundation.


The Definition of Life (Definition)

The Definition of Life Bill is based upon a bona-fide Definition of Life as defined by the latest scientific research, proving the fertilized human embryo is unequivocally **an autonomous human life** in its earliest stage of development, with the ability to drive its own growth without the guidance of a maternal uterine environment. This discovery emerged when researchers thawed out frozen fertilized embryos that were at various stages of the first week (pre-implantation) development, and then grew these embryos past the point at which they would normally implant themselves into the uterine lining, using an in vitro culture system of their own design.

Incontrovertible findings revealed that these cells can successfully organize themselves despite not being implanted in a uterus. This means that, as suspected, embryos know what they're supposed to do to live, and they try to live, whether they're in the mother or not. This new definition of life was proven through a customized culture system that "allows human embryos to undergo pre-to-post-implantation transition in vitro, in the absence of any maternal issues," (M.N. Shahbazi & Colleagues, Self-Organization of the Human Embryo in the Absence of Maternal Issues, Cambridge University Research, UK, May, 2016*,).

The key quality of the definition of life herein, and what now defines life scientifically, rests is in the word "autonomous." This new discovery (confirmed by several researchers in a report at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom released, May, 2016, clearly proves that the fertilized human embryo, in its earliest stage of development, is a separate and distinct human being, apart from the life of its mother, who gets it nutrition to sustain its life from the nutrient-enriched endometrium provided through the bloodstream of its mother.

This transfer of nutrition is the internal equivalent of a post-delivery child now getting its nourishment from a mother's breast. Similarly, the same child could breast feed from another mother whose breasts are filled with baby's milk. The nourishment for the child is not birth-mother-centric which is equally consistent with the in-vitro experiment. The key requirement is in the nutrients needed to continue its growth to the next stage of its development.



In concert, if a post-partum mother withholds nutrition from a new-born child, it will die, and that mother would be held accountable for the child's death. Once the child is delivered, current law requires the mother to be responsible for the health and care of that child.

This new definition of life equally requires the mother of this "autonomous human life, yet unborn" to ensure its the health and nutrition and protect it from harm in the early stages of its inner-uterine development by virtue of meeting this new scientific definition:

"...that a fertilized embryo is an autonomous human life, with all of the rights, privileges, and protections given by law and the Constitution of the United States."

* The University of Cambridge is one of the world's foremost research universities. The University is made up of 31 Colleges and over 150 departments, faculties, schools and other institutions. Its mission is 'to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence'.

The Next Step.

As part of this due diligence process, legislative committees must now hear testimonies from medical professionals within the medical community as well as other medical academics from the human life and biological sciences, verifying the conditions and qualifications of living entities and what constitutes life to form and establish the foundation of this legislation. The authors of this new research might also be invited to testify.

Crafting the Code to Ensure Consistency of Purpose.

The following is an initial draft of what the law in the code would or should resemble and should kick-start the legislative and legal brainstorming required to construct a comprehensive legislative framework for this bill:

The aforementioned text is an excerpt from the bill itself. You can discover the rest of the content when we finally get a legislative audience to review it. That is where you come into the picture. We need supporters of this bill to make sure this information gets into the hands of your representatives

and put a full-court press on them to give it a full hearing and a vote up or down. You are the WE THE PEOPLE warriors that can only make this happen.

With much appreciation,

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