

Hi, I'm Kevin, a paraplegic. I want a cure but not through Amendment 2.



*I actually strongly oppose Amendment 2
and encourage you to Vote "NO"!*

*Voting "NO" does not mean you don't want a cure; it will send a
message to focus on Adult Stem Cell research – the most proven,
effective method of finding cures.*

Here's Why...

1. I WANT A CURE but HOPE is NOT coming from embryonic stem cell research.

Although Amendment 2 seeks the funding of embryonic stem cell research, it is adult stem cell research that has produced treatments for Parkinson's, diabetes, sickle cell, heart disease, injuries, and more. If there were truly any successes from embryonic stem cells, you would see an influx of corporate money invested in this process. Fooling MO voters and taxpayers to pay for the research is the only way to get support.

2. THIS RESEARCH IS ALREADY LEGAL, the amendment forces us to pay for it.

Embryonic stem cell research is already legal. If private groups choose to pay for it, they have every right to do so. Ask yourself this question – Why do we need an amendment to the Constitution when embryonic stem cell research is and always has been legal? By voting "yes" on Amendment 2, you'll be allowing corporations to use your money on an on-going basis to conduct whatever experimentation they want on human embryos. This amendment not only forces us, as taxpayers, to pay for it but it also forbids the legislature from questioning, regulating or discontinuing the research.

3. I AM WORRIED ABOUT WOMEN'S BODIES & EGGS BEING "PRODUCTS".

Although they want you to believe only already "discarded" embryos will be used, the amendment also includes compensating women who supply living eggs. The amendment reads, (4) "No person may, for valuable consideration, purchase or sell human eggs." Then, it says 6(17) "Valuable consideration does not include reimbursements for reasonable costs incurred." In other words, "we say we won't pay for eggs, but we really will, we'll just call it reimbursement." The medical process women will endure for what some consider "easy money" is dangerous to women's health. College students and poor women will be prey for the research – their bodies and eggs becoming commodities for more state money.

4. I DO NOT BELIEVE IN CLONING at any stage or for any purpose, especially for destruction. Although the Amendment says it bans cloning, it limits the definition of cloning to a scientific inaccuracy. In section 6(2) of the Amendment, cloning is considered an embryo that is copied and then implanted. However, cloning has NOTHING to do with implantation. Cloning happens before implantation. It's a completely isolated process, which must happen before it's put into a womb (implantation) or put to work for research. A clone is a clone whether it is implanted or not. A human is a human no matter the size or maturity.

5. MY HOPE OF A CURE does not justify the death of innocent life. As much as I desire a cure, I recognize that there are standards of ethical conduct respected worldwide, like those of the Nuremberg Code. In the Holocaust in Nazi Germany, people were used as live subjects for scientific research to find cures and treatments for the Germans. These individuals were killed during or after the research. There was much hope of cures with their research, but the ends do not justify the means. No living human, of any size, deserves to be killed for research, even if the end for doing so seems very noble or hopeful.

Please support research for a cure. BUT support research that is both promising and humane. Adult stem research is just that... extremely promising and in every way humane. Please do not let sympathy lead you to support embryonic stem cell research. It is not promising and it is not humane. And if we truly are concerned with helping others, we will be intimately concerned that we as a society remain just and humane. This is the mark of a truly compassionate and caring society. – Kevin

The Difference Between Adult & Embryonic Stem Cells

Name/Type of Stem Cell	<u>ADULT</u> (also know as “non-embryonic” stem cells)	<u>EMBRYONIC</u> (also known as “somatic cell nuclear transfer”, technical term for cloning)
Where can you find these stem cells?	Umbilical Cord Blood Bone Tissue Blood Fat Tissue	A living, developing Human Embryo
Do you have to kill a developing human to extract these cells?	No - Never	Yes – Always! Every time you harvest embryonic stem cells you kill a developing human. There is no way to extract embryonic stem cells without killing the human embryo.
Is research on this type of stem cell already legal?	Yes	Yes (Don’t believe me? Please read the STL – Post Dispatch article from 10/08/06)
Are there any proven or documented successes from research using this type of stem cell?	Yes (Go to www.nocloning.org)	No (Zip, zero, zilch, nada – not one success). There has not been one single proven/documented success using embryonic stem cells.

Is this a Republican vs. Democrat issue? No, it’s a people issue. We all want to see new cures developed for ailing relatives and sick children. That’s why there is so much hope and promise using adult stem cells.

If you vote “No” on Amendment 2 what would happen? If you vote “No” you will **not** be supporting human cloning. You would be supporting stem cell research that is already legal. You will be supporting the continuation of proven adult stem cell research. You will also be supporting the continued hope and progress toward additional life saving cures.

Can you BUY an amendment? The couple spearheading the campaign in favor of Amendment 2 (questionably attempting to “buy” an amendment) is the Stowers from Kansas City. They not only have donated up to 28 million for advertising, but they also happen to be financial supporters of former Sen. Danforth and Gov. Blunt, who not-so surprisingly are also advocates of the amendment.

“The adult human being that is now you or me is the same human being who, at an earlier stage of his or her life, was an adolescent, and before that a child, an infant, a fetus, and an embryo. Even in the embryonic stage, you and I were undeniably whole, living members of the species homo sapiens. The human embryo is a whole (though immature) and distinct human organism – a human being. To deny that embryonic human beings deserve full respect, one must suppose that not every whole living human being is deserving of full respect.”

– Dr. Robert P. George, Princeton University Professor; President's Council on Bioethics
“Human Cloning and Human Dignity: An Ethical Inquiry”, July 2002 <http://www.bioethics.gov/reports/cloningreport/appendix.html#george>

“Lincoln fought to abolish the enslavement of fellow human beings who, because of the color of their skin, were used to advance the economic well-being of a few. Let us fight to prevent the enslavement of fellow human beings who, because of their size, are proposed for use in the advancement of the well-being of a few.” - Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, St. Louis
<http://www.stlouisreview.com/abpcolumn.php?abpid=11477>

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the information above.

Please vote “NO” on Amendment 2 on Nov. 7th