



ProLife Office <prolife@archkck.org>

Biweekly Ethics Update

1 message

The NCBC <info@ncbcenter.org>

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THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER



The Moral Mind, by Dr. Joseph Meaney

Fertility-Awareness-Based Methods as a Vital Tool of Restorative Reproductive Medicine

Most people who have heard of Fertility-Awareness-Based Methods (FABMs) think of them as an ethical way to space pregnancies rather than as a precious tool for overcoming infertility. They were originally created to help couples avoid pregnancy, and the general term used at first, natural family planning methods (NFP), reinforced this perspective.

Bioethics Public Policy Report

June 24, 2025

The Bioethics Public Policy Report is the NCBC's biweekly update on developments in bioethics and health care that impact the dignity of the human person. The report addresses issues on the federal, state, and international levels.

Announcements

The Arguments by the United States and Their Amici Are Based on a Tragic Misunderstanding of Gender Incongruence and Dysphoria in Children

The world has witnessed an exploding number of gender-dysphoric children. And, while a significant segment of the international medical community has put a pause on hormonal and surgical interventions for children following the comprehensive review of the medical evidence by Dr. Hilary Cass for the National Health Services England ("Cass Review"), many U.S. advocates continue to silence debate around their preferred aggressive experimental medical interventions beginning at the onset of puberty or even earlier. Such interventions include puberty blockers and cross-sex/wrong-sex hormonal intervention followed by radically invasive surgeries for minors experiencing what studies show is most often a temporary issue in young people. And, as the growing number of "detransitioners" attests, their permanent scars and resulting infertility from these unproven interventions cannot be undone, no matter how great their regret. In the statute at issue in this case, Tennessee lawfully acted to protect its children from these enormous risks and harms.

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill 2024-25

Any law that allows the government, through legislation, to decide that some individuals' lives are not eligible for its protections is discriminatory. When government secures such rights for some but not others, when it relaxes laws against aiding the suicide of terminal patients but not the able-bodied, it is saying: this class deserves less care and protection; its members deserve fewer safeguards of their human rights. In other words, they deserve less respect because in some way they are less human. Such discriminatory processes, as fostered by The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) proposal, must be opposed.

Trump Admin Rescinds Harmful Biden-era Abortion Mandate

The Trump administration rescinded a Biden-era mandate that attempted to force emergency room doctors to perform abortions under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act. Because the administration's action now protects mothers, unborn children, and doctors' conscience rights, Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys filed a voluntary dismissal of the lawsuit they had filed against the Biden administration earlier this year to challenge the mandate.

NCBC in the News

New U.S. Embryo Screening Firm Raises Specter of "Designer Babies"

Catholic News Agency

Father Tad discusses the concerns surrounding a new U.S.-based biotech company, Nucleus Embryo, which offers genetic screening and profiling for those seeking to do IVF. These quality control techniques sift through and discard those embryonic children who do not make the cut and are less than perfect. Fr. Tad notes how: "Society's demand for physical perfection places untold pressure on couples today to 'conform to the norm' by aborting or otherwise eliminating any less-than-perfect children," thereby encouraging

people to treat their own offspring as discardable raw material rather than as the unrepeatable gifts and blessings they actually are.

New IVF Tool Allows Parents to Screen Genetics of Embryos: Is It Ethical?

Newsweek

A new tool allows parents undergoing in vitro fertilization (IVF) to screen their embryos for health issues, but is it ethical? Genetic disease is believed to be linked to 41 percent of U.S. infants' deaths, while more than 2 million children in the country have a genetic condition.

“Genetic Optimization”: Embryo Ranking Treats Children as Marketable Goods, Critics Warn

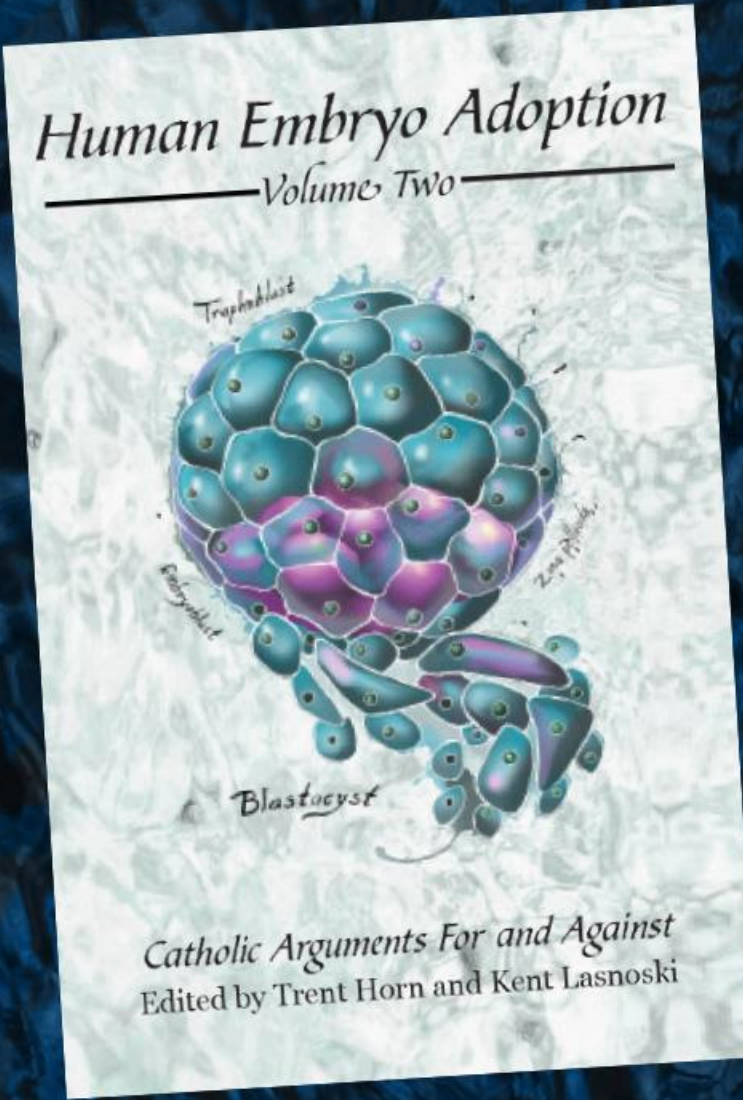
The Washington Times

“Human embryos, among the most vulnerable of God’s creatures, have been entrusted to us to be received unconditionally and lovingly,” Father Pacholczyk told the Catholic News Agency. “Every child, exactly as he or she arrives into our families, is precious, good and beautiful.”

Alternatives to In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) for Overcoming Infertility and Delivering a Healthy Baby

Charlotte Lozier Institute

Infertility is often a symptom of multiple underlying health issues and chronic conditions impacting millions of reproductive-age couples. Unfortunately, too many wait until there is difficulty conceiving to begin investigating these issues and, when problems arise, most think IVF is the only solution.



Human Embryo Adoption
— Volume Two —

Catholic Arguments For and Against
Edited by Trent Horn and Kent Lasnoski

“The first academic book to systematically investigate the new argumentative strategies proposed since the 2008 promulgation of *Dignitas personae*.”



Order Now

Radio and Podcasts

Are There Reasons Catholics Should Avoid Yoga?

LA Catholic Morning on Archangel Radio

What do the origins of yoga say to us about whether we should be involved in it? Todd, Ellen and Father Tad look at some of the concerns that arise from this practice derived from Hinduism, and discuss alternatives for stretching and exercise, including some Christian-based approaches.

Television and Videos



IVF Injustice: The Embryo Adoption Deception Exposed

The Connor Gallagher Show

Father Tad discusses the unjust treatment of embryos that occurs during the process of in vitro fertilization and how this exploitation and commodification of human life would be exacerbated if embryo adoption were to be promoted by the unregulated, profit-driven IVF industry.



The Adriana Smith Case: Setting The Record Straight

Lila Rose Show

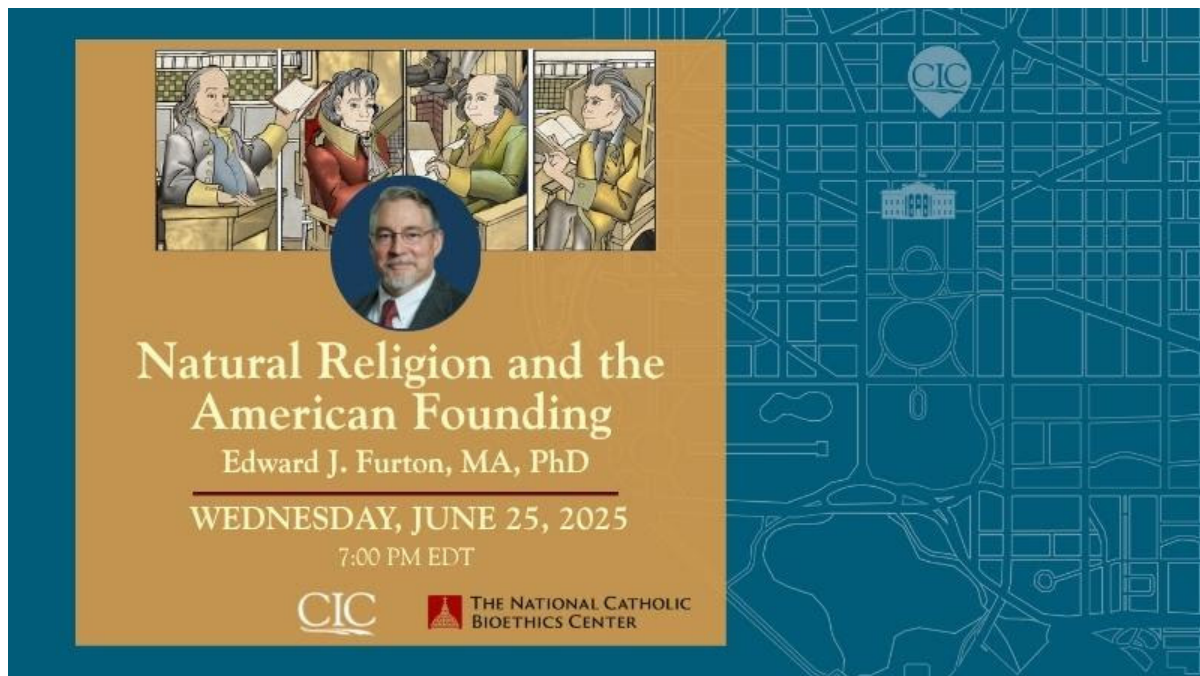
After doing an interview with Dr. Aaron Kheriaty, and then another one with Father Tad, Lila shares a correction to her former perspective, and seeks to “set the record straight” about the Adriana

Smith case. Adriana was declared brain dead while pregnant, but is being maintained on a ventilator and receiving other supportive measures, to try to bring her premature baby, named “Chance,” to the point of viability. Father Tad and Lila will discuss some of the ethical issues, duties and concerns surrounding this unusual case.

Upcoming Events

Natural Religion and the American Founding

Catholic Information Center



The CIC invites you to our upcoming program on June 25th, “Natural Religion and the American Founding,” presented by Edward J. Furton, MA, PhD, Director of Publications at The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC).

Schedule:

- 6:40 pm EDT: Doors open for registrant check-in
- 7:00 pm EDT: “Natural Religion and the American Founding” presentation by Dr. Furton (this portion will be offered both in-person and virtually via a livestream)
- 8:00 pm EDT: Light reception

- 8:30 pm EDT: Conclusion

RSVP today!



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AUGUST 8 & 9, 2025

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What We Are Following

This section contains links to external sites. We are not responsible for their content.

Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Nuns Fighting New York Abortion Mandate

Beckett

The Supreme Court has ordered New York courts to reconsider *Diocese of Albany v. Harris*, a case challenging New York's abortion mandate, in light of Becket's unanimous victory in *Catholic Charities Bureau v. Wisconsin Labor & Industry Review Commission*. In 2017, a group of Catholic and Anglican nuns, Catholic dioceses, Christian churches, and faith-based social ministries challenged New York's mandate forcing them to pay for employees' abortions. After New York courts declined to protect the faith groups, Becket and Jones Day asked the Supreme Court to step in.

Supreme Court Upholds State Bans on Transgender Care for Minors

NPR

The U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld laws in roughly half the states that ban gender affirming medical care for transgender minors. The vote was 6-3, along ideological lines.

With Abortion and Euthanasia Votes, the U.K. Rejects the Basis of Every Human Freedom

Federalist

Two votes in the British Parliament this week sent a stark message to the rest of the world: The U.K. government no longer values the lives of its people, and by extension, their liberties. The House of Commons, the only elected body in Parliament, voted 314-291 on Friday to legalize state-assisted suicide for terminally ill adults who have been told they have less than six months to live.

Abortion, Contraception and the Breast Cancer Epidemic

Catholic Herald

Just over 20 years ago an American scientist called Professor Joel Brind visited London in the hope that his findings of a causal link between abortion and breast cancer (ABC) would get a better hearing than in his native New York.

Rising Number of U.S. Households Are Headed by Married Same-Sex Couples

Pew Research Center

Ten years after the Supreme Court's ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges* legalized same-sex marriage nationwide, a Pew Research Center survey finds that two-thirds of LGBTQ adults say the decision made the country more accepting of same-sex couples.

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