



THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

Biweekly Ethics Update



The Moral Mind, by Dr. Joseph Meaney

Grappling with Human Embryo Adoption

Human Embryo Adoption, vol. 2: Catholic Arguments For and Against makes a vital contribution to the intense discussion concerning what could be ethical solutions to the tragedy of

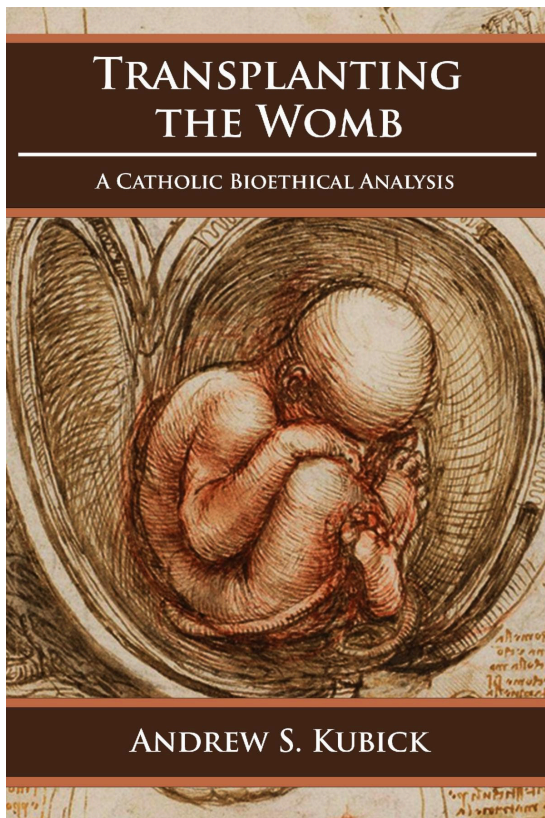
millions of human embryos imprisoned in a frozen state because of in vitro fertilization (IVF).

Bioethics Public Policy Report

July 22, 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



Transplanting the Womb: A Catholic Bioethical Analysis by Andrew Kubick

wins a **Catholic Media Association** Award for Individual Excellence

Emergent technologies, especially in the realm of medicine, require new ethical examinations to determine their moral implications. Too often, the march of technological progress well outpaces these examinations, leaving doctors, researchers, and the general public without proper

guidance regarding the morality of novel procedures. When this occurs, it is the duty of bioethicists to evaluate these emergent technologies and procedures to determine what is morally permissible.

BUY IT HERE**NCBC, with Colleague Agencies, Urges FDA to Review Risks of Mifepristone and Reinstate Safeguards**

This letter from the Catholic Medical Association, The National Catholic Bioethics Center, and other organizations urges the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a comprehensive review of the health risks and complications associated with the abortion drug mifepristone. It also calls on the agency to reinstate critical safeguards to protect the health and safety of American women and their unborn children.

NCBC in the News**Bishop Conley Column Highlights NCBC's CIER Program**

Southern Nebraska Register

The July 11, 2025, column by Bishop James Conley, Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, titled "Christ the Teacher, Christ the Healer," featured the role of the NCBC's Catholic Identity and Ethics Review (CIER) program in assisting Bishop Conley's work with Catholic health care institutions.

Book Review: "*Human Embryo Adoption, Volume 2: Catholic Arguments For and Against*"

Dr. Jeff Koloze

"Although most people disdain scholarly material, especially after woke ideology infected academia, this volume collects genuine scholarship for those who want to understand the ethical issues surrounding embryo adoption."

Registration Open for The NCBC's Online Certification Program!

Classes begin August 25, 2025



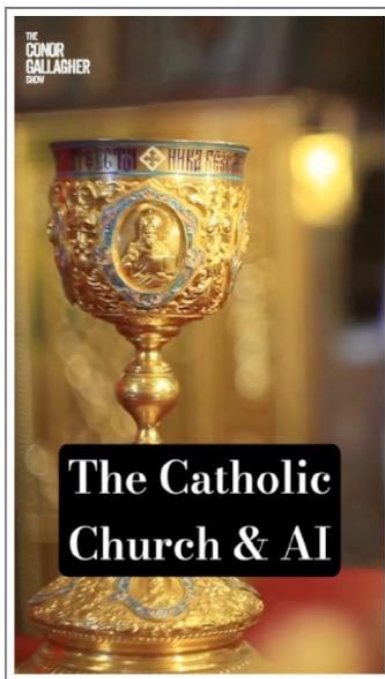
Radio and Podcasts

Designer Babies

The Drew Mariani Show on Relevant Radio

John Harper and Fr. Tad discuss a start-up embryo screening company in Silicon Valley, Orchid Health, that offers genetic screenings for couples of their IVF-produced embryos. The company claims to be able to sequence the entire genome of each embryo to produce an algorithm to provide a polygenic risk score. They discuss the limitations of the notion of a “risk score” as well as the pressures on couples to have “the perfect baby,” a form of objectification of offspring and imposition of quality control in the form of consumer-driven eugenics.

Television and Videos



Artificial Intelligence and the Catholic Church

The Connor Gallagher Show, YouTube Short

In this 60 second short, Father Tad reminds us of the unique vantage point of the Catholic Church when it comes to sorting through the moral implications of new technologies and developments, ranging from human cloning to artificial intelligence. The Church relies on a bedrock of fundamental principles to sort through novel issues and challenges, being well “ahead of the curve” and offering clarity on technologies oftentimes even before they are deployed.



THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC
BIOETHICS CENTER

TWO-DAY SEMINAR

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HEALTH CARE ETHICS

AUGUST 8 & 9, 2025

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What We Are Following

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Federal Court Blocks Washington Law Targeting Seal of Confession

Beckett

A federal court today **blocked** a new Washington state law that would have forced Catholic priests to face jail time unless they

broke the sacred seal of confession. The law at issue in **Etienne v. Ferguson**, which was set to take effect on July 27, required clergy to report abuse shared within the sacred confines of the confessional. Wilmer Hale and co-counsel Becket and First Liberty Institute represent the lead plaintiffs Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, Bishop Joseph J. Tyson, and Bishop Thomas A. Daly, who filed an initial lawsuit earlier this summer.

A Push for More Organ Transplants Is Putting Donors at Risk

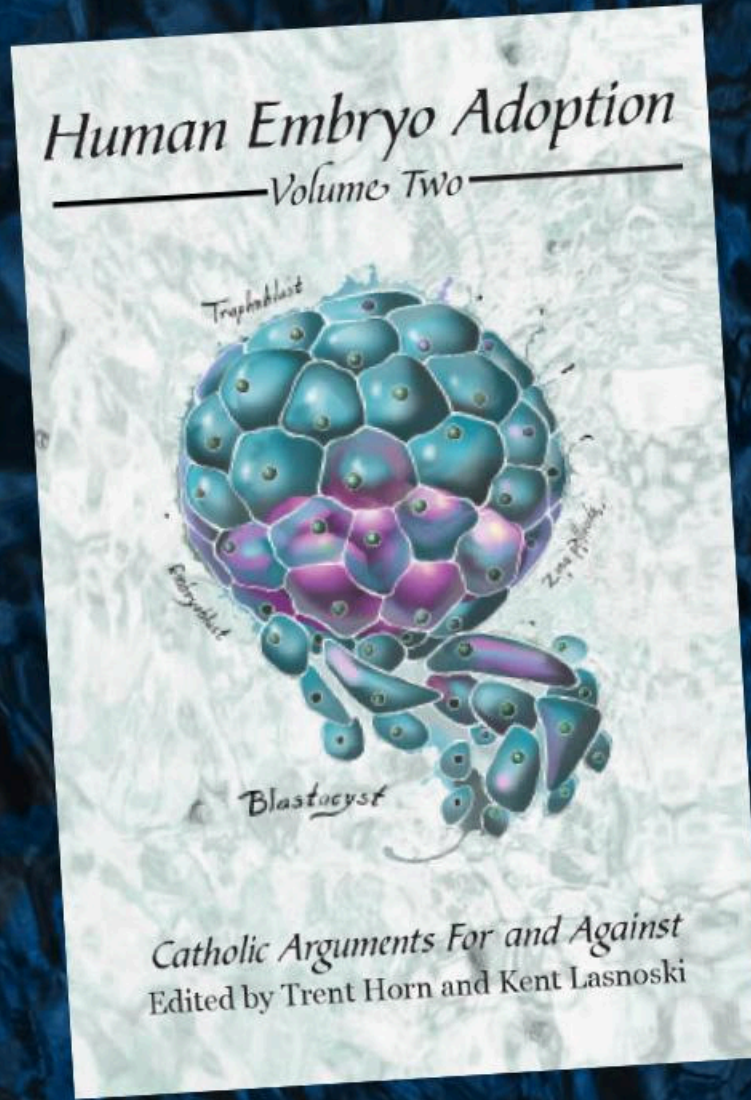
New York Times

Last spring at a small Alabama hospital, a team of transplant surgeons prepared to cut into Misty Hawkins. The clock was ticking. Her organs wouldn't be usable for much longer.

Four Reasons Chip and Joanna Gaines Should Not “Normalize” Gay Surrogacy

Federalist

Chip and Joanna Gaines' controversial new series, “Back to the Frontier,” platforming an attention-seeking gay couple who commissioned and bought two boys is something that should concern all people of good will, regardless of your faith or politics.



Human Embryo Adoption
— Volume Two —

Trophoblast
Zona Picta
Blastocyst

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*.”



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PRO LIFE OFFICE
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"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the fullest." John 10:10 1