



ProLife Office <prolife@archkck.org>

Biweekly Ethics Update

1 message

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THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

Biweekly Ethics Update



The Moral Mind



The Discipline of Algorithethics

Algorithethics, a combination of the words *algorithm* and *ethics*, refers to assessing the ethical implications of technologies, particularly

artificial intelligence (AI), a field that is becoming increasingly important with many implications for bioethics. A coalition of faith leaders and scholars in October 2025 signed a **Joint Statement on AI Ethics** in Rome. They were a diverse group but very much inspired by Pope Leo XIV's call to address the implications of AI and insist on its ethical use. It also hearkened back to Pope Francis' 2020 **"Rome Call for AI Ethics."**

Upcoming Events



Two Priests, and a Public Debate on Embryo Adoption

Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Indianapolis, Indiana

On Friday, November, 14th at 6:30 PM, Father Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D. will be participating in a formal debate with Father Ryan McCarthy on the question of the moral permissibility of human embryo adoption. The debate will be moderated by Christopher P. Johnson, S.J. and has been slated to last about an hour and a half, with ample time for exchanges between the debaters and structured audience participation. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about this fascinating and controversial bioethical issue. Seating is limited, and registration is required.

[Invite an NCBC Speaker](#)

Bioethics and Public Policy

Bioethics Public Policy Report

The NCBC's update on public policy developments in bioethics and health care on the state, federal, and international levels.

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Video, Radio, and Podcasts

End of Life Decisions and Navigating Complex Bioethical Questions

St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM 820 in Central Ohio

An interview on bioethics, end of life care, and more with Father Tad Pacholczyk of the National Catholic Bioethics Center and Beth Vanderkooi of Greater Columbus Right To Life. In this round table, they look at **[Making Good End of Life Decisions](#)** and discuss a range of topics including pain management, the use of ventilators and feeding tubes, and various ways we can plan for our own end of life care.

Laws that Provide Cover for Unethical Actions in Medicine

LA Catholic Morning on Archangel Radio

Hosts Todd and Ellen talk with Father Tad about the expanding practice of pressuring lawmakers to provide legal cover in the form of "immunity from prosecution" for medical personnel who participate in various unethical practices. They look at particular instances involving physician-assisted suicide, anonymous abortion pill prescriptions, and protections for the *in vitro* fertilization industry.

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NCBC in the News

Babies From Skin Cells? Catholics Decry Research Breakthrough Over Human Egg Creation

National Catholic Register

Father Tad provides ethical commentary on a new a method of manipulating skin cells and other human cells to mimic oocytes — eggs — through a process that researchers have termed mitomeiosis, a variant of a long-heralded process called in vitro gametogenesis (IVG).

Fact Check: Do Parental Notification Laws for Abortion Harm Minors?

Catholic News Agency

In this article, Father Tad comments on the need to provide support and assistance to underage mothers when they discover they have become pregnant and are seeking to navigate what is a very fear-filled moment. In the face of pressure to eliminate laws requiring parental notification about abortion, he asks whether it makes any sense to encourage underage girls to disconnect even further from their families as needed support systems, and "go it alone," pushing them into greater psychological isolation by keeping their parents at arms-length as they seek out an abortion. He concludes that parental involvement and support, whenever an unexpected pregnancy arises, should be the default position we seek to promote as a caring and civilized society.

On “Brain Death” and the Conflict Between Clinical and Pastoral Practice

The Catholic World Report

Dr. Eble in this article references Father Tad Pacholczyk's position that brain-dead patients should not be given the sacrament of the sick. At the 2021 Catholic Medical Association Annual Education Conference, he stated that “to the extent that moral certitude has been achieved, that this is now a ventilated corpse that we are dealing with, the sacraments are given for the living. They are not for the dead or the deceased. And one must not provide them to a corpse...”

Sign Up for NCBC Membership

Are you a doctor, nurse, patient, health care power of attorney, scientific researcher, medical student or resident, or someone else facing tough ethical decisions in health care and biomedical research? Are you a priest, chaplain, friend, family member, or someone else asked to advise on these matters? Our team is here to help you understand and apply the moral teachings of the Catholic Church to the challenges you face:

Request a Free Ethics Consultation

Please pray for our work and consider financially supporting our mission of defending the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research!

Make a Financial Gift

The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC) provides education, guidance, and resources to the Church and society to uphold the dignity of the human person in health care and biomedical research, thereby sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church. The NCBC envisions a world in which the integral understanding of the human person underlying Catholic teaching on respect for human life and dignity is better understood and more widely embraced in America and worldwide.

The NCBC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.



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