



New Jersey Catholic Stem Cell Research Education Campaign

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***Myths discredited in
“The Science of Stem Cells: Finding Cures and Protecting Life”***

New stem cell education video released in New Jersey offers truth, clarity

The debate about embryonic stem cell research and the cloning of human life moves front and center onto the New Jersey political scene when voters go to the polls this November. At stake is a statewide ballot initiative that, if approved, would authorize \$450 million for stem cell research which would include embryonic stem cell research and human cloning.

Proponents contend their goal is finding cures for those suffering from various diseases and conditions. But a growing number of patient advocates, scientists and others are joining in an effort to expose the myths and misinformation the stem cell debate. A new short documentary co-sponsored and distributed by Catholic leaders in New Jersey entitled **“The Science of Stem Cells: Finding Cures and Protecting Life”** figures to play a key role in educating the public about what is involved.

“This video offers an excellent, easy-to-understand overview of the key issues connected to the stem cell debate,” explains (insert Respect Life spokesperson and title here). “I dare say, when people see this short documentary, their eyes are going to be opened wide to information they have probably never heard before — and that’s why it is so important to view.”

The 14-minute video features an introduction by Cardinal John Francis Rigali, Chairman of the U.S. Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, followed by national experts exploring facts largely avoided or misrepresented in the secular media, including:

- The effectiveness of *adult* stem cells — different from human embryonic stem cells and morally acceptable — already being used to help thousands of people with diseases and conditions,
- A graphic explanation of human cloning, something certain researchers in New Jersey want to conduct in taxpayer-funded laboratories,
- Why a coalition of feminists from all across the religious and political spectrum oppose cloning because it requires the harvesting of human eggs, a practice potentially harmful and exploitive to young women,
- How a paralyzed man who originally supported embryo destructive research later changed his views after discovering ESCR is unlikely to produce cures or treatments in the near future — if ever,
- The ethical and moral quagmire of using live human embryos for unproven and ineffective experimentation.

Funded in part by the New Jersey Knights of Columbus, the video was produced to help offset much of the misinformation and misunderstanding that surrounds the stem cell debate.

“It’s crucial for the people of New Jersey to educate themselves on this issue and the video is a great start,” says [Family Life/Respect Life](#) director [Linda Richardson](#). “What they will discover is that contrary to public perception, the Catholic Church is very much in favor of finding cures and treatments for suffering people using stem cells —they just have to be the *right kind* of stem cells, stem cells that work. This effort is a continuation of our ‘heal the sick’ heritage that goes back centuries. The fact is, we can heal people without manipulating and destroying other human lives.”

To view *The Science of Stem Cells: Finding Cures and Protecting Lives* visit www.RespectLifeToday.org.

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