#PP still sells baby body parts : We must provide alternatives if we want to stop human exploitation justified for biomedical progress.

Despite the recent exposé of the harvesting of body parts from babies with beating hearts, on Sept 28th Congress backed down and funded the government as well as the organization responsible for such atrocities. Pro-choice or pro-life, no one condones such callous harvesting of another human body. Congress is waiting for better alternatives before they take action, as they have waited for decades. We at Sound Choice are close to bringing our first alternatives to clinic - YOU can help us to get there. Right now the best bang for your buck is to support Sound Choice Pharmaceutical Institute. Advocacy is wonderful, exposed is wonderful, testimony of pro life groups to Congress is wonderful, but as we have seen repeatedly, those organizations can’t stop human exploitation as long as there is a market demand.  

Sound Choice CAN beat them in the market. We CAN provide better, safer alternative medicines. We need YOUR support to get there. Ethical alternatives are safer & more affordable. Alternatives sound like a no-brainer to me!

PLEASE DONATE TODAY! WE RELY ON YOUR SUPPORT!

Dr. Theresa Deisher, President, Sound Choice Pharmaceutical Institute

How do we stop human exploitation justified by a quest for biomedical progress?

Several years ago I received a phone call from a young man, David Daleiden, who had read a news article about Sound Choice. He did not know about the human exploitation that is justified by the quest for biomedical progress. Most of you know about the undercover videos David Daleiden and the Center for Medical Progress obtained, capturing the callous harvesting of baby body parts by Planned Parenthood (PP), including babies whose hearts were still beating when they were harvested. Human exploitation goes beyond the harvesting of the bodies of aborted babies. Eggs for cloning research are pilfered from poor and vulnerable women, organs for transplantation are stolen from refugees and impoverished villagers and appropriated from prisoners harvested at their executions. A mission of Sound Choice and all our supporters is to shed light on these barbaric and archaic practices. Whether you are pro-choice or pro-life, people do not condone the brutal harvesting of babies or prisoners.

Shedding light on human exploitation is not enough, unfortunately. The harvesting of aborted babies has been exposed before, has led to congressional investigations in the late 1970s and early 2000s, but continues today. The use of organs and tissue from aborted fetuses became pervasive in biomedical research in the mid 1990s. Since that, tissue became an emphasis in research, new drug submissions to the FDA are flat, new drug approvals are flat, and despite billions invested in biomedical research, we have not gotten a bang for our bucks (Akst, J. (2015) “Report: Impact of Biomedical Research Slipping” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences). New drugs to the market are flat. The general public (you, the taxpayer) funds the vast majority of biomedical research. In 2011, $30 billion taxpayer dollars were spent on biomedical research. The graph below shows skyrocketing taxpayer-funded research in green but diminished return on medical advances. (http://www.fda.gov/aboutfda/whatwedo/history/prod uctregulation/summaryofndaaapprovalsreceipts1938tothe present/default.htm; https://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/prop hist.html).

Let’s sum this up : the U.S. is almost $18 trillion in debt, $30 billion is spent - primarily on academic - research driven by harvesting organs and tissue from the poorest and most vulnerable among us, including aborted babies, over $500M in federal funds support PP, and yet Congress just maintained funding to PP and to failed investment in medical progress.

We can do better than this! We must bring our alternatives to clinic to stop the funding of PP’s harvesting of human bodies and the exploitation of other human beings in the quest for biomedical progress.
Better, Safer, Ethical Alternatives are Possible and Readily Attainable.

Let’s take a look at stem cells. Thanks to the efforts of organizations like ours, the public is becoming aware of the overwhelming advantages of adult stem cells over embryonic or aborted fetal stem cells. Even the states of California and Maryland, who wasted billions of dollars on embryonic stem cells, have learned that only investments in adult stem cells will pay off and have switched their funding, as you can see by the diminishing red bars and climbing blue bars in the graph below (http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/dec/3/pro-lifers-hail-shift-in-stem-cell-funding-as-embry/?page=all).

There are now 14 FDA approved adult stem cell products (see figure below) and over 450 clinical trials going on world wide, compared to under 10 clinical trials using aborted fetal or embryonic stem cells (www.clinicaltrials.gov). To maintain this preference so heavily towards safer, more effective and affordable adult stem cells, we need to make sure that adult stem cells are used very well. AVM Biotechnology has a lead molecule that does just that. Trials in horses are yielding exciting results and human clinical trials are coming soon. Trials in horses indicate that AVM Biotechnology’s drug can increase regenerative healing rates and eliminate the need for repeated stem cell injections. Now that’s exciting!

All vaccines are, have been, or can be produced using ethical alternatives.

Aborted fetal manufactured vaccines that are used in the US include: MRRII (measles-mumps-rubella), Varivax (chickenpox) and Zostavax (shingles), Vaqta and Havrix (hepatitis A), Pentacel (poliovax), Imovax (rabies), among others. The safe and effective Alternatives: The rubella virus used in Japan was isolated from a throat swab from an 8 year old infected girl and is manufactured using rabbit kidney cells. No aborted fetuses are needed. Hepatitis A vaccine ‘Aimmugen’ produced in Japan is manufactured in monkey Vero cell line. Instead of using the aborted fetal manufactured Pentacel, parents can protect their children with IPOL, Pediacel or Pediarix, any HiB, InfanrixHexa, all made in monkey Vero cell line. Instead of using Imovax for rabies, we can use Rab4Vert, made in hen eggs. The chickenpox and shingles vaccines could be made using guinea pig cell lines (Proc Soc Exp Biol Med., 1973 Oct 1;144(1):340-4; Appl Microbiol., 1968 Jan;16(1):160-2).

It was a choice to use the MRC-5 human fetal cell line, instead of creating a guinea pig cell line. As you can see from the references above they knew by 1968 that chickenpox grew well in guinea pig cells, and it was not until 1970 that scientists first started to develop a chickenpox vaccine (http://drug.fda.moph.go.th/zone_search/files/1C_80_43_N_Okavax.pdf). Those scientists chose, mostly for convenience, to use a human fetal cell line instead of making a guinea pig cell line.

The public needs to know the truth that using human fetal cell lines is a choice, not a necessity. Please share this newsletter on Facebook and social media, or merely share these facts about the choice. I am asked repeatedly why scientists made these choices. There are several factors that we know were at play, and most likely several sociological factors like decisions influenced by animal rights activists. We know that scientists thought the human fetal cell lines would be less expensive than using chicken eggs, a belief that has been proven to be incorrect - using chicken eggs is cheaper (http://www.seattletimes.com/health/h1n1-vaccine-production-method-faulted/). We know that scientists thought the human fetal cell lines would produce vaccines that were more effective, a belief that has been proven to be incorrect (97% for rubella in MRRRII - http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM142553.pdf - but 98.8% for Japanese rubella- Clinical efficacy of rubella vaccines produced in Japan: Vaccine Handbook 1994).

Overview of unethical vaccines and their possible alternatives in the US and Canada.
Alternatives are not just ethical, they are safer as well.

Adverse reactions are lower historically in ethically produced vaccines. For example, arthralgia (pain) and arthritis affect 12-26% of women who receive the fetal rubella Meruvax™II (http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM142553.pdf), but only 0.2% of women who received the ethical Japanese rubella (Clinical efficacy of rubella vaccines produced in Japan: Vaccine Handbook 1994).

The same safety benefit has been documented for ethical stem cells as well. Embryonic stem cells form tumors because of their intrinsic primitive nature, an intrinsic characteristic that cannot be overcome by technology (Med Sci Monit. 2006 Apr;12(4):RA75-8). Therefore, embryonic stem cells are not safe to treat human disease, and are useful only for cloning and transgenic mutation experiments.

Scientists and doctors have also sought cures through the implantation of stem cells or mixed cells from human fetuses. The results have been no less disastrous than attempts to use embryonic stem cells. An Israeli boy with a hereditary neurodegenerative disease had fetal neural stem cells implanted into his brain only to develop tumors that originated from the fetal stem cells (PLoS Med. 6(2): e1000029. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1000029).

Similar uncontrolled growth has been seen when fetal cells were injected into the brains of Parkinson’s patients. New trials injecting second trimester fetal cells into the brains of Parkinson’s patients were started in 2014 (Nat Rev Neurol. 2015 Sep;11(9):492-503), mistakenly driven by the grievous nature of this disease. Wouldn’t these patients be better served if those doctors focused on safer adult stem cell treatments? The experts in the field have already woken up to the fact that later term fetal brain tissue will be limiting for them since three aborted babies are needed to treat each patient (Curr Stem Cell Res Ther. 2015 May 31).

Finally, ethical alternatives are also more affordable

A 2009 Seattle Times article revealed the truth that chicken eggs are cheaper to use for vaccines than human fetal cell lines (http://www.seattletimes.com/health/h1n1-vaccine-production-method-faulted/). Although Geron Corporations clinical trial using embryonic stem cells to treat acute paralysis was halted suddenly and suspiciously, we do know that they were planning to charge just under $500,000 for the embryonic stem cells if they had worked (http://www.nydailynews.com/news/money/u-s-approves-stem-cell-study-spinal-injury-article-1,42465). Adult stem cells are between 5-25% of that outrageous price tag, and they don’t form tumors.

Safer, affordable, effective and ethical – everyone is for that!