



Concerned Women for America of Illinois presents: Stem Cell Fact of the Day #5

“My wife has M.S., and we would love for there to be a cure for her disease and for the diseases of others. But there is an ethical boundary that should not be crossed.”

~ Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, as quoted in the New York Times

Massachusetts Governor Opposes Embryonic Stem-Cell Work

New York Times, 2-10-05 (<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/02/10/national/10stem.htm?oref=login>)

BOSTON - Setting up a political battle over stem- cell research, Gov. Mitt Romney of Massachusetts said this week that he would propose legislation to outlaw a type of embryonic stem cell-research that is being planned by laboratories at Harvard University and other institutions in the state....

Many proponents of the bill have assumed they would have the backing of Mr. Romney, a Republican whose wife, Ann, has multiple sclerosis, a disease that could potentially be helped by the research. Mr. Romney had previously said he supported stem-cell research in general, but had not elaborated.

But in an interview on Tuesday, Mr. Romney said that he was strongly against a type of embryonic stem-cell research that many scientists consider extremely promising: research that involves creating human embryos specifically for scientific experimentation.

The governor said he would oppose any bill, like the one Wednesday, that would allow that method. And he said he would propose his own legislation that would establish criminal and civil penalties for research like that being planned by labs at Harvard University and Children's Hospital.

“Some of the practices that Harvard and probably other institutions in Massachusetts are engaged in cross the line of ethical conduct” Mr. Romney said.

He added: "My wife has M.S., and we would love for there to be a cure for her disease and for the diseases of others. But there is an ethical boundary that should not be crossed.”

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CWA endorses adult and umbilical cord stem cell research but condemns embryonic stem cell research as immoral.

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