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Dear Mr. Candidate:

A popular research field and medical application, stem cells are expanding treatment options and opening possibilities for cures. Currently, stem cell research has been focused within the usage of embryos to obtain the cells and create stem cell lines. However, these specific stem cells are obtained by destroying an embryo, a pre-born child. This poses moral and ethical concern and controversy.

A policy and law should be instituted that restricts embryonic research to pre-existing stem cell lines and embryos from the results of abortions, prohibits the cloning of human embryos. It should also encourage and focus funding on investigating and improving the applications for adult stem cells, induced pluripotent cells, and mesenchymal stem cells instead of embryonic cells, supporting only ethical, consensual means of research because of the moral opposition to embryonic stem cell research and cloning and the scientific potential shown through clinical studies in other stem cells. This could be accomplished through incentivized funding and strict protocol for stem cell research and applications.

In conclusion, considering the bioethics of embryonic stem cell research and the understudied applications of other non-controversial stem cells, restrictions regarding the ability to obtain embryos and

stem cell lines and the cloning of human DNA and cells should be established, erring on the side of caution until scientific evidence can lead both parties to agree. Scientific evidence shows life from conception when the sperm embeds itself in an oocyte, though scientists and the public seem to be unable to agree upon a claim. Until ethical grounds have been settled on the conduction of research, it is better to fixate on other stem cells and leave the research of embryonic stem cells alone.

Sincerely,

Alexis Guth

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