



hands off our ovaries

CLONING VOTE WILL HARM WOMEN

The Senate has given the green light to cloning and to the harmful harvesting of eggs from women.

As a result of this vote some women will get sick and some will die. The Senate has agreed that the mere possibility of cures is more important than the definite risks to women's health. Women will pay the price for research which will be of no benefit to them.

Cloning is impossible without a continuous – and large – supply of eggs from women. This carries the risk of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome including organ failure, respiratory distress, stroke, infertility and even death.

Throughout the debate cloning advocates have ducked and weaved one fundamental problem: where will all the eggs come from? They have failed to identify a viable source of eggs that is safe for women. Yet the Senate has rushed to cross the ethical Rubicon which will have a profound impact on Australian women.

It is ironic that the Senate agreed to an amendment by Senator Bartlett which criticised the exploitation of animals and banned the use of animal eggs. We agree that the creation of animal-human hybrids is abhorrent. But Senator Bartlett and the majority of the Senate are more concerned about the welfare of animals than they are about the welfare of Australian women.

'Hands off our ovaries', is an international coalition of women's groups including Women's Forum Australia and FINRRAGE who are opposed to egg extraction for research.

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