

OSTM: LN68/NY JULY 21 78 MSG: CKP

TO: TIME MEDICINE, RELIGION

FROM: LONDON BY: BONNIE ANGELO

SLUG: TEST TUBE ETHICS ECH:

WE HAVE GONE BACK TO A NUMBER OF EXPERTS ON THIS POINT OF IN VITRO FERTILIZATION, WITH IMPLANTING IN MAMMALS. YES, IT HAS GONE ON IN QUITE LARGE NUMBERS -- NOBODY KNOWS PRECISELY HOW MANY EXPERIMENTS -- USING MICE, RATS, RABBITS, AND SOME SOURCES SAY GOLDEN HAMSTERS, SHEEP AND POSSIBLY PRIMATES.

DR. RONALD BARNES, QUOTED IN EARLIER TAKE, A SCIENTIST WITH THE CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER, HARROW, CONFIRMED AGAIN FOR US TONIGHT THAT HE HAS IMPLANTED IN VITRO FERTILIZED EGGS IN BOTH MICE AND RABBITS. IN ONE STUDY ALONE HE IMPLANTED 14 RABBITS. HE IS THE SCIENTIST WHO FEELS STRONGLY THAT NOT ENOUGH ANIMAL RESEARCH HAS BEEN DONE, THAT STEPTOE AND EDWARDS HAVE MOVED TOO SOON TO HUMANS, AND REPORTS A HIGHER INCIDENCE OF ABNORMALITIES AMONG RABBITS DERIVED FROM IN VITRO EGGS THAN THOSE FROM NORMAL CONCEPTION.

DR. DEREK BRONHALL, A MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL SCIENTIST WORKING IN OXFORD, SUGGESTS THAT TIME CONTACT M. CHANG, AT THE WORCESTER FOUNDATION, WHO KNOWS VAST AMOUNTS ABOUT HIS SUBJECT, HAVING WORKED IN THIS FIELD FOR MANY YEARS. DR. BRONHALL POINTS OUT THAT "THERE IS NO CONCLUSIVE PROOF UNTIL YOU'VE PUT THOSE EGGS FERTILIZED IN VITRO BACK INTO THE ANIMAL AND BROUGHT

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THEM TO FULL TERM. THAT IS THE ONLY REAL TEST. (OF SUCCESSFUL IN VITRO PREGNANCY.)

DR. BARNES ALSO CITES WORK BY TOYODA AND CHANG, EXAMINING THE "OFFSPRING DERIVED FROM RAT EGGS FERTILIZED IN VITRO", WHICH SHOWED DEVELOPMENT OF MICROPHthalmIA IN GREATER NUMBERS THAN IN CONTROL ANIMALS.

ANOTHER STUDY, PUBLISHED IN NATURE, MARCH 4, 1976, REFERS TO IN VITRO FERTILIZED EGGS INVOLVED IN TRANSFER.

DR. ANNE MACLAREN CANNOT BE REACHED, BUT OTHER SCIENTIFIC SOURCES SAY THAT HER WORK HAS INVOLVED IN VITRO FERTILIZATIONS AND IMPLANTS IN MICE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO REACH HER TO .
DOUBLE CHECK THIS, BUT CANNOT BE SURE.

IT IS CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF IN VITRO FERTILIZATIONS HAVE BEEN IMPLANTED IN ANIMALS AND HAVE BEEN BORN AT FULL TERM.

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