
Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Blazer](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 09:07:16 GMT
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<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6935477/>

This could get hairy...if test tube babies are now persons, all kinds of interesting legal things can happen. Accidentally drop a test-tube, you have now committed manslaughter. Fertility clinics have hundreds of frozen embryos onsite...if their freezer breaks down, are they then guilty of mass murder under the law?

websiteJudge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Chilling effect possible on IVF, abortion, stem cell research
The Associated Press
Updated: 8:00 p.m. ET Feb. 8, 2005

All Alison Miller and Todd Parrish wanted was to become parents. But when a fertility clinic didn't preserve a healthy embryo they had hoped would one day become their child, they sued for wrongful death.

advertisement
A judge refused to dismiss their case, ruling in effect that a test-tube embryo is a human being and that the suit can go forward.

Though most legal experts believe the ruling will be overturned, some in the fertility business worry it could have a chilling effect, threatening everything from in vitro fertilization to abortion rights and embryonic stem cell research.

An end to IVF?

Schenken, president of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. Few doctors would risk offering the procedure if any accident that harmed the embryo could result in a wrongful death lawsuit, said Schenken, chairman of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Texas in San Antonio.

He said the society, a professional group for fertility doctors, is considering filing a court brief opposing Friday's ruling by Cook County Judge Jeffrey Lawrence.

What do you think?

Live vote: Is a test-tube embryo a person?

The lawyer for the clinic, James Kopriva, declined to say if an appeal is planned, but added, "We are weighing our options. We disagree with the court's decision and do not believe

In a letters to the couple in June 2000, Dr. Norbert Gleicher, director of the Center for Human

Reproduction, said an employee had failed to put an embryo in frozen storage and he apologized

Fuel for anti-abortion activists

If the ruling for the couple holds, it would have no legal standing outside Illinois. However, it could provide impetus for groups elsewhere to push an agenda opposing both abortion rights and stem cell research, said Northwestern University law professor Victor Rosenblum, an abortion foe who has worked with anti-abortion activists.

not survive any appeals attempts, Rosenblum said.

The judge refers in his ruling to an Illinois statute that implies that wrongful death lawsuits can be filed on behalf of the unborn regardless of age. In Lawrence's interpretation, that includes a test-tube embryo before pregnancy — the microscopic bunch of cells that form after an egg is fertilized in the laboratory but before being implanted into the womb.

There are nearly half a million such embryos frozen at fertility clinics nationwide. They are typically extras produced through in vitro fertilization, and most clinics keep them indefinitely until couples decide to use them or authorize their disposal, said University of Minnesota ethicist Jeffrey Kahn.

Widespread implications

Kahn said if the decision stands, "it will have implications not only for embryonic stem cell

SPECIAL REPORT

Lori Andrews a reproductive rights lawyer in Chicago, said the Chicago case is reminiscent of disputes in other states in which custody of embryos was at issue — including a Tennessee divorce case in which a lower-court ruling that an embryo was a child was reversed on appeal.

Dr. Ralph Kazer, head of the IVF program at Chicago's Northwestern Memorial Hospital, said fertility specialists are watching the case with interest, but also said he doubts it will stand.

He said the case serves to "simply remind me and to remind my team that we have to

Miller and Parrish, the Chicago couple, had no intent beyond seeking justice for the clinic's error, said their attorney James Costello. A phone listing for them in Chicago was disconnected and Costello said they did not want to discuss their case with the news media.

said, referring to the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

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Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 13:07:20 GMT
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Waivers and stuff like that will have to be signed.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 13:18:56 GMT
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Faulty equipment while bungee jumping? Involuntary Manslaughter.

We do tons of deadly things, and like Nodbugger says, they all start with a Waiver... lol

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Vitaminous](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 21:10:18 GMT
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Omfg, cells are people.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 21:11:37 GMT
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Aprimecells are people.
Indeed the embryos are.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [SuperFlyingEngi](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 21:49:33 GMT
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I firmly believe that all carbon atoms should be considered unborn children under the eyes of the law because they could potentially at some point in time become living things.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 21:54:05 GMT
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You're an idiot. The fact is, a sperm fertilized an egg and from there a fully-developed human will be the result. You can't say that for diamonds, graphite, etc... tard.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [SuperFlyingEngi](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 22:01:38 GMT
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A fully developed human child is not always the result of an egg being fertilized. Ever heard of a miscarriage?

My misguided, hardcore religious right opinion is that every carbon atom that does not develop into a human is a miscarriage. Thus, fertilized eggs and individual atoms of carbon should fall under the same jurisdiction.

By the way, carbon is the chief atom of life, in case you didn't know.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 22:05:18 GMT
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Very bad example SFE... people have funerals for miscarriages and people cry, real tears. They don't go well 'damn that thing wasn't too hardy now was it?'.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 22:25:03 GMT
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SuperFlyingEngiA fully developed human child is not always the result of an egg being fertilized. Ever heard of a miscarriage?

By the way, carbon is the chief atom of life, in case you didn't know.
I should have put that in there knowing that you'd jump on it, but alas, I figured you would have some common sense.

Yeah, you're a brilliant one there, buddy. OMG DIAMONDS ARE MISCARIAGES. OMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMG. HOW SAD. YOU CAN'T WEAR DIAMONDS BECAUSE IT IS DEAD EMBRYOS. YOU SINNER. OMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMG. :rolleyes:

Yeah, I know Carbon is the basis of all lifeforms. I've taken basic Chemistry courses in high school, and I am acing my Basic Chemistry class at college too (it's SO easy...I should have gotten into the next higher one).

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 22:25:14 GMT
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sperm + egg = life

if you dont believe that then surely:

brainwaves or Heartbeat = life

either way, any form of abortion (and this is, in my eyes, abortion) is barbaric. The child has done nothing to deserve this fate, therefore, who are we to take its life?

actually now thinking about it, abortion would be ok in ONE case: if the mothers life was threatened.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Fabian](#) on Wed, 09 Feb 2005 23:35:08 GMT
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I actually think abortion should be illegal (I know, I know...I'm supposed to be a "liberal").

You can take a morning after pill, and birth control pills are not hard to get. If you're that careless that you get yourself pregnant (and it's too late for birth control), you'd better be ready to take care of a baby or put it up for adoption.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 00:15:20 GMT
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Exactly. Granted there are great arguments with "what if she's sexually abused?" Then I can see why you would want to get an abortion. That's the only reasonable reason to get one, but I still just can't agree with it. It's hard for me to see a reason why anytime is a good time to kill a child.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 00:56:29 GMT
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I don't agree with this decision. I don't accept an embryo as a person. A fertilized egg will eventually become a person, but until it is born, or until the fetus is mostly developed or something, I wont consider it a person.

As for abortions: I don't have a problem with people having abortions. IF they do it soon after they are pregnant. If they wait 6 months and then get one, well they are stupid.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 01:13:20 GMT

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IRON-FARTA fertilized egg will eventually become a person, but until it is born, or until the fetus is mostly developed or something, I won't consider it a person.

An embryo is an underdeveloped human being. The genetic code is there. If you say that it's not a human because it's not developed completely, then half of the people on these forums are not human. Yes, the people on these forums are functioning outside their mother's womb and have taken a recognizable form of a human, but they're still not fully developed.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Hydra](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 02:38:27 GMT

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Human life begins at conception. Period. The end.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Vitaminous](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 04:17:56 GMT

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Science is giving you a choice.

Blue pill or red pill, it doesn't matter, because in most countries the debate has ended years ago.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 04:28:00 GMT

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Just because the government has made their decision doesn't mean we can't disagree with their decision. Just because they say something doesn't mean we have to agree. Also, I'm born and raised in America where I'm given my right to express my opinion. The government can do what they want, and I'll choose whether or not I'll agree with them.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Vitaminous](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 04:48:06 GMT

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Did I say otherwise?

Choice = better.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person

Posted by [cheesesoda](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 04:49:07 GMT

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You said the debate ended, but I was just stating that it doesn't mean that I/we won't voice my/our opinions.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person

Posted by [warranto](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 05:26:06 GMT

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SuperFlyingEngil firmly believe that all carbon atoms should be considered unborn children under the eyes of the law because they could potentially at some point in time become living things.

Becareful there... you wouldn't want to kill those defenceless dry ice children!

And how dare you breathe! You're expelling potential children everytime you exhale!

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person

Posted by [Jecht](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 05:27:59 GMT

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lol

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person

Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 05:29:55 GMT

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j_ball430IRON-FARTA fertilized egg will eventually become a person, but until it is born, or until the fetus is mostly developed or something, I wont consider it a person.

An embryo is an underdeveloped human being. The genetic code is there. If you say that it's not a human because it's not developed completely, then half of the people on these forums are not human. Yes, the people on these forums are functioning outside their mother's womb and have taken a recognizable form of a human, but they're still not fully developed.

I didn't say completely. Untill they are a person. Well "person" is a sort of vague description. I'll rephrase that. I won't consider it human unless it can feel, move and think. An embryo or fertilized egg can't do that. Fetus or newborn can. Untill it can do those things, I don't care if it dies.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person

Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 05:31:21 GMT

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SFE, that Carbon idea is ridiculous. Anything black could potentially be a baby.

EDIT: *gasp I double posted and didn't realize. Sorry

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 05:35:28 GMT
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hydra1945Human life begins at conception. Period. The end.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 05:56:22 GMT
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Embryo != Human.

Embryo will eventually become a human.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 13:11:18 GMT
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I agree that life begins at conception. I mean otherwise what does begin?

I can't beleive Abortion isn't illegal considering how much people hate Spawn Campers.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Chronojam](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2005 13:49:31 GMT
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SEALI actually think abortion should be illegal (I know, I know...I'm supposed to be a "liberal").

You can take a morning after pill, and birth control pills are not hard to get. If you're that careless that you get yourself pregnant (and it's too late for birth control), you'd better be ready to take care of a baby or put it up for adoption.

Same

IRON-FARTEmbryo != Human.

Embryo will eventually become a human.

I dunno about you, but I'm hoping that once I'm the proud owner of an embryo, it will be human.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Hydra](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 02:18:35 GMT
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Dictionary.comem-bry-o (P) Pronunciation Key (mbr-)
n. pl. em-bry-os

1a. An organism in its early stages of development, especially before it has reached a distinctively recognizable form.

1b. An organism at any time before full development, birth, or hatching.

2a. The fertilized egg of a vertebrate animal following cleavage.

2b. In humans, the prefetal product of conception from implantation through the eighth week of development.

Quote:or-gan-ism (P) Pronunciation Key (ôrg-nzm)

n.
1. An individual form of life, such as a plant, animal, bacterium, protist, or fungus; a body made up of organs, organelles, or other parts that work together to carry on the various processes of life.

Quote:life (P) Pronunciation Key (lf)

n. pl. lives (lvz)

1a. The property or quality that distinguishes living organisms from dead organisms and inanimate matter, manifested in functions such as metabolism, growth, reproduction, and response to stimuli or adaptation to the environment originating from within the organism.

1b. The characteristic state or condition of a living organism.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 04:28:32 GMT
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Ok let me break it down for you all...

A mother is not allowed to suddenly decide to kill all her children. She will be going away for a long time if she does. Why on Earth is it allowed in the form of abortion?

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Javaxcx](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 04:34:16 GMT
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Well, the difference of the situation is that in the former case, the mother isn't biologically bound to the child.

I don't necessarily care too much for the idea of abortions. But I can understand why some find certain cases justified-- such as when the baby poses a life-threatening issue to the mother.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 05:00:13 GMT
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I dunno even that would be a very tough call for me... It's taking one life for another. And I mean the baby gets screwed? It hasn't experienced anything. No first ice cream cone, no first gum ball, no... first... video game.

Won't somebody think of the children!

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 08:04:17 GMT
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No!
I can't have feelings for an embryo, I'm sorry.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Crimson](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 11:11:20 GMT
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I agree with you Java... I don't believe a child should die to pay for the mistakes of the mother... in cases of health issue to the mother, rape, incest, then it's justified. Not because the woman who too stupid to protect herself.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 16:13:15 GMT
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```
if(embryo == child)
{
    murder = child + abortion;

    System.out.println("youve murdered a child, Can you live with yourself?");
}
else
{
    guilty_conscience = what_could_have_been_life;
    System.out.println("You have destroyed what could have been life, Can you live with yourself?");
}
```

```
BufferedReader choice = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(System.in));
```

```
System.out.println("Is it fair for a child to pay for their parents mistakes?");
String yourchoice = choice.readLine();
```

.....

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 23:39:59 GMT
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Boo fucking Hoo. Poor (potential) baby.

gbull, theres an error with your script.

```
if(embryo == child)
{
```

It should read:

```
if(embryo != child)
{
```

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Sat, 12 Feb 2005 08:31:02 GMT
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my code is flawless , and what if that potential baby was you. Lets not only think about the easy way to do things and instead think of the right way to do things.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Sat, 12 Feb 2005 18:37:44 GMT
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If that potential baby was me? And it got aborted as an embryo? Then I wouldn't be here to care. None of you would care that I wasn't here. My family and friends wouldn't care because none of these people would have even known me. Whats the big deal? I don't see this as the morally wrong thing do to.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Javaxcx](#) on Sat, 12 Feb 2005 18:42:05 GMT
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CrimsonI agree with you Java... I don't believe a child should die to pay for the mistakes of the mother... in cases of health issue to the mother, rape, incest, then it's justified. Not because the woman who too stupid to protect herself.

Oh, don't get me wrong. I still believe that it is always wrong to abort a child that otherwise could live. But I do think that it is sometimes justifiable.

Remember, something can be morally wrong but also justified.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Sat, 12 Feb 2005 23:27:46 GMT
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well said.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Sun, 13 Feb 2005 02:30:09 GMT
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I'd have to agree with most of that. women should try their best not to get pregnant. But they might get raped or realise that they have AIDS after they become pregnant and do not want that child. Maybe they cannot support the child in the future. Maybe the pregnant woman is a teen. Maybe the father leaves without notice. Not conditions in which you want to bring up a child.

For those people who refuse to use birth control and get pregnant, then get an abortion soon after, they are real idiots for being irresponsible. But i'd still prefer that they have the abortion so that a smoking, alcoholic, sex addict mother won't raise them.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Crimson](#) on Sun, 13 Feb 2005 02:39:33 GMT
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Actually, I believe most babies born from AIDS-infected mothers "grow out of it" in the first two years of life. Not all, but most or many... something about their immune system not being fully developed yet.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Sun, 13 Feb 2005 03:17:08 GMT
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Not all of them do. If the mother is given no medication, there is a 50% chance that the HIV virus will develop in them within about 6 months.

Of course here in America we have this medication, but there is always a risk.

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [Crimson](#) on Sun, 13 Feb 2005 11:59:57 GMT
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I didn't say all...

Subject: Judge rules test-tube embryo is a person
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Sun, 13 Feb 2005 20:29:15 GMT
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I know... Just FYI
