

Life Discussions

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RU-486

Embryos Discussion and Bulletin Board

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Remote Name: 217.219.215.10

Date: 31 Aug 2003

Time: 17:09:43 -0000

Comments

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

The much debated abortion pill, RU-486, has been for a long time a source of great controversy in the protection of life debate. Released by French in 1988, and newer generations have been developed since then. Unfortunately, however, the majority of the proliferers find it acceptable to deny would be mothers the opportunity to terminate their unborn life in a more civilized and humane way.

RU-486 or mifepristone is a 19-norsteroid with anti-progestational activity due to its competitive interaction with progesterone at progesterone receptor sites (antagonist). Progesterone is the major hormone present during pregnancy. One of the actions of progesterone itself is inhibition of uterine contractions by inhibiting the contraction inducing effects of a group of compounds called prostaglandins (found naturally in the human body). Excessive uterine contractions results in the expulsion of the product of conception (as it occurs during birth). Doses of 1 mg/kg or greater of mifepristone have been shown to antagonize or counteract the endometrial (internal lining of the uterus) and myometrial (muscle layer of the uterus) effects of progesterone in women.

Other actions of Mifepristone in the body include its antiglucocorticoid and weak antiandrogenic activity (hormones found naturally in the body). Its effect completely disappear from the body within 11 days of single dose (600 mg) oral administration. Its effectiveness in terminating pregnancy has been reported to be between 92-95% when co-administered with misoprostol (an analog of prostaglandinE2 which is found naturally in the body). Its side effects include heavy bleeding up to 60 days (seen in less than 2%), surgical interventions for the lack of success of the treatment (8%) and incomplete abortions (4%).

In about 1% no abortion is produced and the pregnancy continues.

There is no doubt that killing of embryos and fetuses is wrong, and it is better to nourish and nurture rather than to kill and destroy. The sad truth is, however, that abortion is legal and embryos and fetuses are indeed killed everyday. Thus, it is better to find a way of accomplishing this deed that will not only minimize the harm to these girls, but also cause less suffering to the embryo or fetus. We have all seen pictures of fetuses torn apart during the process of abortion by vacuum which is surgical procedure and can cause much greater complications.

The analogous argument is one of the death penalty. In the past, many condemned to death were killed by hanging or electrocuted. In recent years, it has been concluded that such methods cause unnecessary pain and suffering (cruel and unusual). In recent years, lethal injection has become the accepted manner of execution.

Prolifers! Do not oppose a more humane way of terminating intrauterine life. You will not only be wronging these girls who wrong themselves, but you are adding to the suffering of the innocent! Let not yourself to become part of the sin they commit. Allah willing, as long as abortion is legal, RU-486 will be available!

Last changed: 09/19/06