

TEN YEARS
OF BUILDING
A HUMAN
FUTURE
2000 - 2010



THE CENTER FOR
BIOETHICS AND
CULTURE NETWORK

TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY • 2000 - 2010

From Local to International in Ten Years

DAVID G. PAULS, M.D., CBC BOARD CHAIR

As the CBC celebrates its tenth birthday, it is amazing to see how far we have come. Starting as a local effort, the CBC now has a national and international presence. From our humble beginnings of Coffee and Discourse Lectures, given by a variety of experts in the bioethics arena, held in a church—to our recent film *Lines That Divide*, which has been distributed worldwide.



In professional conferences and public debates, the CBC has been a driving force to bring together thought-leaders in bioethics. Ten years of faithfulness has meant a close watch on state and national politics—with the introduction of stem cell funding guidelines, California’s Prop 71, controversial issues in reproductive medicine, and the unregulated egg donation business.

Looking back on the CBC’s growth, I am thankful for all the people who have given their time, their talent, and their treasure in supporting the CBC. Particularly in these times of economic uncertainty, I want to reassure you that we, the board and staff, are doing our best to be good stewards of the resources that have been entrusted to us. And once again, thank you for ten years of generous support—we look forward to the years ahead.

The CBC: A Decade of Building a Human Future

JENNIFER LAHL, CBC FOUNDER AND NATIONAL DIRECTOR

If someone were to tell me ten years ago that I’d be sitting writing this letter now, I would have thought they were nuts. Plugging along, raising a family and working in nursing, bioethics and non-profit leadership were not on my radar. But a funny thing happened along the way when I found myself enrolled in a graduate program in bioethics. I got hooked, finding bioethics to be what I considered the most profound and important field of issues facing the human race; and I wanted to be a part of the ever-burgeoning biotech wave, contributing from an ethical standpoint.

I FOUNDED THE CBC TO BE A RESOURCE FOR PEOPLE WANTING TO UNDERSTAND BIOETHICS AND SHAPE THE DIRECTION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY—TO PROTECT AND DEFEND BEING HUMAN AND OUR SHARED COMMON GOOD—TO BE A VIRTUOUS VOICE IN THESE OFTEN HIGHLY POLARIZED AND POLITICIZED TIMES.

I’ve been surprised by how one organization, in a relatively short period of time, and with very limited resources, can make a big splash and shape the direction of conversations in bioethics. I’ve been surprised by the people who have invested in our mission and vision—some since the very inception of CBC—and never wavered. And I’ve been immensely surprised by the gifted and talented staff who have worked and sacrificed, just because they care so much about raising their voices in this new and strange field of bioethics, which often means battling against intimidating ideas and a strong cultural current.

Meeting growing demands as people express interest and need support has been a challenge—

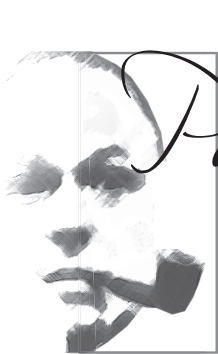


there never seems to be enough “CBC” to say yes to all the invitations and requests. So we’ve stayed clearly focused on the activities of our organization—mission creep can kill an organization. We have been learning when to step out in faith and when to say “no,” or just “not now”—some projects we felt CBC was uniquely positioned to take on, and some we felt were better suited to take a supporting role in.



Perhaps the greatest challenge was feeling like we were David going up against Goliath—big biotech, the established elite in the scientific and medical communities, partisan politicians, supporters of euthanasia, and of course the mainstream media, which often wouldn’t take the time to get the facts, but just reported the party line. But we pressed on. And now we are well positioned for the next ten years. Committed supporters, devoted staff and volunteers, and plenty of issues facing us in this biotech century. We are ready to step up once again and give a carefully reasoned, pro-human response.

Here’s to the next decade. And here’s to the future of the human race!



Paul Ramsey

Award Winners
2004–2010

Paul Ramsey (1913–1988) was the Harrington Spear Paine Professor of Religion at Princeton University and regarded by many as one of the most important ethicists of the 20th century. We honor his legacy to those demonstrating exemplary achievement in bioethics, defending the dignity of humankind in the face of 21st-century challenges to the human good.

(Left to right) Edmund Pellegrino (2004), Germain Grisez (2005), John Finnis (2006), William May (2007), Albert Moraczewski (2008), Gilbert Meilaender (2009), Leon Kass (2010)



ALL OF US, RAMSEY WOULD HAVE SAID, WHATEVER OUR PARTICULAR VOCATIONS, ARE PART OF THIS COMMUNITY OF DISCOURSE. ALL OF US ARE CALLED TO THINK, AS CAREFULLY AND AS THOROUGHLY AS WE CAN, ABOUT THESE URGENT HUMAN PROBLEMS. AND FROM ALL—THOSE WHO DISAGREE, THOSE WHO WORK IN THE DAY-TO-DAY STRUGGLES OF BOTH RESEARCH AND CLINICAL MEDICINE—FROM ALL OF THEM THE ETHICIST SEEKS TO LEARN.

—GILBERT MEILAENDER, 2009 RAMSEY ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

The Center for Bioethics and Culture Network: 2000–2010



THE CENTER FOR BIOETHICS AND CULTURE Network
bringing people together for a human future

August 2000:
 CBC launched with a conference in Oakland, CA



THE FACE OF THE FUTURE: TECHNOSAPIENS?

September 2003, Oakland, CA:
 Cameron, Hook, Mitchell, Hurlbut, Christine Peterson, Ted Peters, Richard Hayes

BIONANOTECH, CYBERNETICS AND THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE

October 2004, Washington, D.C.:
 Hook, Hurlbut, Cameron, Peterson, William Cheshire, Wrye Sententia, Nick Bostrom, Lori Andrews, Leon Kass



THE BIOTECH CENTURY

June 2005:
 Cameron—"Life and Death in the Balance,"
 "A Worldview for the Biotech Century"

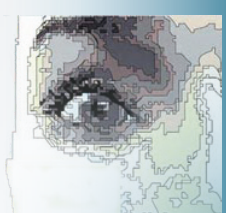


COFFEE AND DISCOURSE LECTURES

2001–2004: William Hurlbut, C. Christopher Hook, C. Ben Mitchell, Nigel Cameron, Philip Johnson, Francis Beckwith and many more



Paul Ramsey Award:
 Germain Grisez

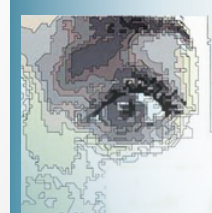


THE DEBATE OF THE CENTURY

June 2002:
 "What does it mean to be human?"
 Nigel Cameron vs. Peter Singer

BUILD OUT FUTURE

CAMPAIGN FOR THE CBC AND THE HUMAN RACE
 November 2003:
 \$200,000 grant-matching challenge



THE DEBATE OF THE CENTURY

March 2004:
 "Is it always wrong to take innocent human life?"
 Cameron vs. Singer



PROP 71: ROUNDTABLE ON POLITICS, ETHICS AND SCIENCE

June 2005, Palo Alto, CA:
 Hurlbut, Cameron, Wesley J. Smith, Robert Klein, Debra Greenfield, Francine Coeytaux

BIOETHICS FILM FESTIVAL

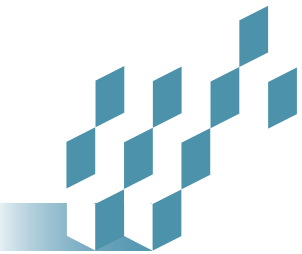


October 2004:
Now Playing: Playing God



Paul Ramsey Award:
 Edmund Pellegrino

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005

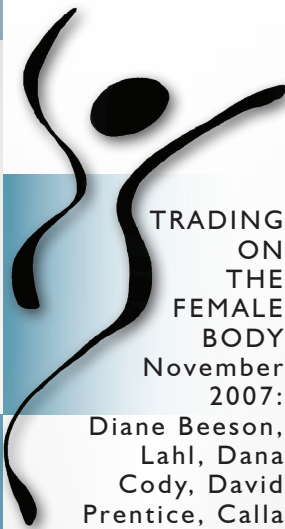


6,000 SOULS CAMPAIGN
Launched 2005



Paul Ramsey
Award:
William May

**HUMANITY FADING:
FACING OUR
FUTURE**
September
2008:
Lahl, Smith,
Schemmer—
“Challenges
that Seek
to Redefine
Humanity”



**TRADING
ON
THE
FEMALE
BODY**
November
2007:

Diane Beeson,
Lahl, Dana
Cody, David
Prentice, Calla
Papademas



Paul Ramsey
Award:
John Finnis

**THE BIOTECH
CENTURY**
June 2006:
Jennifer
Lahl,
Smith,
Ken Schemmer—
“Taking Life,
Making Life and
Faking Life”



**THE BIOTECH
CENTURY:
FACING
OUR
FUTURE**
November 2007:
Smith, Lahl,
Nikolas Nikas,
Fred Chay, Jacque
Chadwick, Joni
Eareckson Tada,
Peter Gentala



Paul Ramsey
Award:
Albert
Moraczewski

TRADING ON THE FEMALE BODY
March/November 2007, March 2008,
Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.:
Bi-partisan congressional briefings



Paul Ramsey
Award:
Leon Kass



**BANKING ON LIFE:
CORD BLOOD
STEM CELLS,
THE FUTURE OF
REGENERATIVE
MEDICINE**
May 2009,
San Francisco, CA:
James Baumgartner,
Colin McGuckin,
Prentice, Ian
Rogers, Josephine
Quintavalle, David
Harris



Paul Ramsey
Award:
Gilbert
Meilaender



**LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY FOR
EGG DONORS**
2010:
New York, Arizona,
Kansas, Oklahoma

**BIOETHICS
CONSULTING**
January 2010:
Alliance Defense
Fund, American
Association of
Pro-Life OB/GYNs

Lines That Divide

THE GREAT STEM CELL DEBATE
2009: National Press Club Premiere,
national television debut
2009-2010: Showings on college
campuses, e.g., UC Berkeley, Stanford
University, Boston College

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

The Word on the Street about the CBC...

"A terrific idea back in the late 20th century TO LAUNCH A NETWORK THAT WOULD TURN PEOPLE'S MINDS TO THE IMMENSE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE HUMAN FUTURE in the 21st, and since the idea came from someone as visionary yet practical as Jennifer Lahl it didn't seem to me that, under God, it could fail."

–NIGEL CAMERON, CBC BOARD CHAIR, 2000–2006

"[On the CBC's *Lines That Divide...*] A MUCH NEEDED TOOL FOR EQUIPPING CONCERNED CITIZENS WITH A COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF THE SCIENCE AND ETHICS SHAPING THE STEM CELL DEBATE TODAY. The film spotlights the breakthroughs being made by adult stem-cell therapy—breakthroughs which are not receiving equal funding or equal media coverage. All of us who believe in supporting life should see this film and recommend it to others."

–CHARLES COLSON, FOUNDER, PRISON FELLOWSHIP

"Jennifer Lahl has exercised effective and intelligent leadership in ongoing efforts to arrive at a true picture of major issues now being debated in the media, government and public institutions. WITHOUT ACRIMONY, BUT CLEARLY AND FORCEFULLY, SHE HELPS US FIND OUR WAY THROUGH THE THICKETS OF EMOTION AND HEATED OPINION TO DISCOVER WHAT IS THE CASE AND WHAT SHOULD BE DONE. She is a valuable citizen of the intellectual community."

–DALLAS WILLARD, PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY, USC

"The Center for Bioethics and Culture is GAINING PROMINENCE AS AN OPINION MAKER IN THE AREA OF REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND STEM CELL RESEARCH as a result of innovative use of technology (blogs, online polls, e-newsletters) and unconventional coalition building on issues such as the perils of egg donation."

–KATHRYN HINSCH, FOUNDER, WOMEN'S BIOETHICS PROJECT

The Best (and Worst): A Decade of Winners and Losers

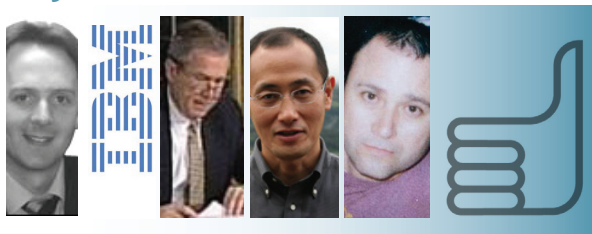
Colin McGuckin Umbilical cord blood stem cell researcher (2009)

IBM First company to develop a policy banning genetic testing / discrimination (2007)

Bush Administration Established federal funding guidelines on the use of embryonic stem cell lines (2001)

Shinya Yamanaka Leading researcher in ethical induced pluripotent stem cell therapy (2008)

Jesse Ramirez Survivor of a traumatic head injury; family won legal battle to prevent "pulling the plug" (2007)



South Korean researcher behind a human embryonic stem cell cloning scandal (2006) **Hwang Woo Suk**

Mastermind driving \$3-billion Prop 71 and the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (2005) **Robert Klein**

Opposes legislation and oversight to protect the health and well being of women and children **American Society of Reproductive Medicine**

Licenses researchers to conduct human-animal hybrid research **Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority**

Practitioner of euthanasia; jailed eight years for first-degree homicide, then released (2007) **Jack Kevorkian**



First Encounters and Lasting Impressions

WESLEY J. SMITH, J.D., SENIOR FELLOW IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND BIOETHICS, DISCOVERY INSTITUTE
SPECIAL CONSULTANT TO THE CBC

Ten years ago, I received a phone call. The woman on the line introduced herself as Jennifer Lahl—"I want to create a new bioethics think tank," she told me. "Let's have lunch."

"Sure," I thought. "I've heard this story before." But never one to refuse free food, I agreed. Jennifer enthusiastically shared her dream of energetically engaging the culture about all issues bioethical, and in the process hopefully helping to forge a counterweight to the forces pushing society toward a crass utilitarianism that devalues human life. I remained privately skeptical, but tried to be encouraging—after all, you never know.

Good thing I kept the skepticism in. Jennifer Lahl is not just a dreamer. She's a doer. One decade later, the think tank she founded is making a huge difference: protecting the health and fertility of young women targeted by big biotech as egg donors to permit research into human cloning; educating about the facts of stem cell research; fighting euthanasia. And the CBC articulates its message effectively, matching timeless truth with the newest technologies.

But the CBC's work has just begun. In the next decade, medical professionals will come under increasing pressure to take innocent human life, such as in abortion, assisted suicide, and embryonic stem cell research. Those professionals who wish to adhere to traditional Hippocratic values will need legal protections, known as conscience clauses. The CBC will advocate on their behalf. Assisted suicide activists will seek to expand the culture of death. The CBC will stand in the breach. If human cloning is finally perfected, the CBC will educate the public as to why a brave new world should never be allowed. And always, the CBC will stand up for the bodily integrity of women, destitute people in the developing world, and others—all of whom are increasingly the victims of biological colonialism.


So, here's to the CBC's second decade. I am no longer skeptical. There's a lot of important work to be done and I know the CBC will do it. Indeed, it has only begun.



Building Further into the Biotech Century: Future Goals

The CBC's strategy for continuing to work for and build a human future in the biotech century remains focused on three target areas:

- 1 Cut off the supply of human eggs for research in order to protect young women from harm and potentially save their lives.
- 2 Promote ethical advances in research (e.g., induced pluripotent stem cells, cord blood and other adult stem cells) to work against unnecessary life-destroying embryonic research.
- 3 Protect and promote human dignity and reject the idea that human life can be used as a commodity or raw material for research. This necessarily requires a commitment to critique the infertility industry and will help to build a cultural foundation for life.



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THE CENTER FOR BIOETHICS AND CULTURE NETWORK

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MISSION The CBC exists to collaborate in providing resources and a public forum to: educate our culture about the impact of biotechnologies, engage in dialogue about what it means to be human, and challenge those who influence our culture to use science that is grounded in moral responsibility.

VISION By working with key influencers and decision makers, CBC seeks to change the bioethical landscape and promote wholly human progress, resulting in a positive and human-affirming cultural conscience in science, medicine and public policy that protects human dignity and defends the most vulnerable to abuse.

CBC-NETWORK.org

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