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Anatomy and Physiology

5th hour

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

With new technologies there are often many disagreements. This is defiantly the case with embryonic stem cell research. There is both the moral questions and if it is even worth the time and investment. There are good and bad points to each side of the argument, but in order to understand the argument we must first understand what a stem cell is and where it comes from.

 Embryonic stem cells come from embryos. Most of the time the embryos in use are left over from in-vitro fertilization (IVF), when couples use IVF they usually will have left over embryos there are three options for those left over embryos. The first would be to keep the embryos frozen, but most couples don’t choose this option because of the fact that they must pay to store the embryos for the rest of the time they’re kept in storage which can become quite costly. Now another option would be to destroy the embryos all together. The final option is to donate them to stem cell research in the hope that maybe in future years this research could help save lives of others.

 Most of the controversy over the subject comes from the fact that in order to get the stem cells the embryos must be destroyed. On the one side of the argument the say that since the embryos have the chance to develop into a fetus we shouldn’t destroy them because that’s like taking away life. On the other hand though the people for stem cell research say that since the embryos in use would most likely be destroyed anyways it would e better to use them for research so at least there is a reason for their destruction.

 While there is the chance this research could save lives in the future is it morally correct to sacrifice one life to save others even if it could save multiple lives and only destroy one? This is a big question in the controversy over stem cell research. Groups for stem cell research insist that yes it is worth it and the research will most defiantly save enough lives to make it worth the time the investment and the sacrifice of the embryos. While many of the groups against stem cell research believe that it may not even work and it would be a terrible waste to destroy these embryos for research that may not go anywhere.

 Although this is a very touchy subject and I have only done a little research over lots of possibilities of stem cell research I believe that yes stem c ell research is worth the time and investment. My main reason for believing in stem cell research is that since many of these embryos are already going to be destroyed I believe that we should use them to research, and hopefully that will lead us to find ways to cure diseases and other problems people have and save lives that way. I don’t believe that we should ever just get rid of life so since these embryos are on their way to be destroyed most likely I believe that we should have a reason for doing so.

 No matter what field you are in or where you go if there is something new there will most likely be people for and against it. Its hard to say that one side is defiantly right or that one side is defiantly wrong considering I understand where both sides are coming from but with this research I have found that I believe I am pro embryonic stem cell research.