



# LTI

# LIFE TRAINING INSTITUTE

*Persuasively Communicating the Pro-Life Message*

September 2010

Dear Friends,

“I’m against abortion, but what’s wrong with using leftover embryos for research? They’re going to die anyway, so why not use them to cure disease?”

That question came from a Christian student on day one of the Summit conference in Dayton, TN. And it’s a perfect example of why the Life Training Institute’s work must go forward and why your support is vital in helping us equip Christian students to think biblically.



“You’re right,” I replied. “These embryos will die. But why is that? Isn’t it because people want to kill them for research?”

“Suppose,” I continued, “that you oversee a Cambodian orphanage with 200 toddlers that are abandoned. The facility cannot care for them any longer. Water levels are critically low and food supplies are exhausted. It’s only a matter of time before starvation and disease set in. A scientist has offered to take the toddlers off your hands

and use them for grisly medical research designed to cure cancer. He confronts you with the hard facts: Many of these children will die soon and there’s nothing you can do to prevent it, so why let all those organs go to waste? Nonetheless, you refuse. You could never, even for a moment, consider turning the kids over to the scientist on grounds that these kids are going to die anyway, so we might as well put them to good use. True, given your impoverished circumstances, you are powerless to save them, but you would never be complicit in actively killing vulnerable human beings, which is what embryonic stem cell research entails.”

Of course, there are many other examples to consider. Prisoners on Death Row are going to die, but we don’t strip their organs to benefit others.

In short, unless one begins with the assumption that the embryos in question are not human beings, the “they’re going to die anyway” claim doesn’t work. All of us are going to die sometime. Do those of us who will die later have the right to kill and exploit those who will die sooner? So, once again, we’re back to the question we drill into kid’s heads: *What are these “excess” embryos?* If they are human beings, I see only one morally acceptable option: Wait for adoptive parents.

Thankfully, the young woman was able to grasp the moral logic that was in play. Her confusion underscores the need to train even more students with persuasive pro-life content and exemplifies why we’re committed to expanding our outreach. Everywhere these students look, they

get fractured moral logic. Consider President Obama's own justification for funding embryonic stem cell research. He's repeatedly told the nation that ideology should not interfere with scientific progress.

Really? First, the claim that ideology should not get in the way of science is itself an ideological claim — and a highly controversial one at that. Second, if he is correct that scientific progress trumps morality, one can hardly condemn Hitler for grisly medical experiments on Jews. Nor can one criticize the Tuskegee experiments of the 1940s in which black men suffering from syphilis were promised treatment, only to have it denied so scientists could study the disease. Pro-life advocates are not anti-science. We are not anti-cures. We just insist that scientific progress be tied to moral truth.



You see, despite all the advances with ethically permissible adult stem cell research, the media constantly tells us we must sacrifice embryonic lives to save our own. That's a lie, but unless Christian students are trained to think differently, they'll buy it.

The money you give to Life Training Institute helps us reach students with the truth about abortion and embryonic stem cell research. We get in front of thousands of students each year in schools across America puncturing misconceptions and clarifying the moral logic of the pro-life position. The work is costly but the results are worth every penny.

Please help us. Pray the Lord strengthens me for my Fall speaking schedule. Please ask yourself this question: *Why wouldn't I choose to fund life-changing presentations to students just like that girl in Dayton, especially since so few Christians do?* Then, give what you can to partner with us.

Your gift of \$10, \$25, or even \$50 will make a real impact in the lives of students like that young woman in Dayton.

**Just make your tax-deductible checks payable to LTI and return it to me or give online at [https://prolifetraining.com/donate\\_general.asp](https://prolifetraining.com/donate_general.asp).** On behalf of the students we hope to reach, thanks very much for your generosity.

Gratefully,

Scott Klusendorf

P.S. September 16-18 I'll be at Biola University teaching a graduate course in advanced pro-life apologetics. Now, graduate students are learning to make a case for life. Please give today and help us do it. [https://prolifetraining.com/donate\\_general.asp](https://prolifetraining.com/donate_general.asp)