

# Memorandum

**To:** Whom it may concern at FDA

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**From:** Armando Bottelli

**Date:** 12/1/2006

**Re:** [Docket: 2006D-038](#)

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I recently visited a couple of European countries, and found substantial evidence that umbilical cords and even several adult human tissues contain cells that, directly or through their descendents, are or can be treated to become multipotent, just like some fetal tissues are known to be.

In fact I read about a widespread scientific investigation of this subject with very clear results, on several different biological and medical journals ( I wonder whether this research is known at the FDA, given the widespread ignorance of any other language than English by most U.S. scholars, and their general reliance on bibliography published in the U.S. only, or at most, in the U.K.).

As a result of this information I don't see any more excuse to approve the use of cell derived from aborted human subjects for medical purposes, given the civil and political controversies on this subject, the lack of any explicit legislation on this matter and the shaky legal basis of any approval (while it is clear the Supreme Court authority of enforcing or correcting the interpretation of existing legislation, it is doubtful that the Supreme Court has indeed any authority "de jure condendo", because such activity according to many jurists may be exclusively constitutionally endowed to the Congress).

What could be born or tolerated under the condition that it is the only way to achieve a specific health improvement purpose, without any equivalent alternative, cannot reasonably be supported when it does not have any serious scientific proof of providing unique and vital benefits with respect to other alternatives that respect everybody's perception of the human life and dignity respect (or at least of the overwhelming majority –more than 80%- of the people, provided there are small groups disapproving even standard blood transfusions and any kind of medical intervention altogether..). If the FDA would approve the fetal tissues from aborted humans to be used for commercial purposes, maybe some time in the future we should expect the FDA to approve the commerce, to be used for transplants, of human body parts, extracted from living, even healthy people that had accepted to sell them in order to be paid money, had been deprived of such parts against their will, or had been killed to harvest such body parts. I am aware that such kind of commerce is already happening illegally here and there abroad, and have found several distinct reports that the forcible variety of it has and is currently been pursued in mainland China. I have even read that some U.S. medical practitioners are involved in such disgusting practices. Do we want this to ultimately become legal in the U.S.?

I think we need to be very aware that approving for business purposes, besides the available ethically acceptable alternatives, the use of fetal tissues from aborted human beings the FDA would be giving their consent and support to ideas and attitudes that constitute the slimy slope eventually bringing to purposely and consciously renouncing and forgetting any respect to human life and dignity. Remember that medical doctors were found who already did so in the Nazi Germany ( and elsewhere). Do you want to repeat that history in our country?

