

I lost my case, they won't release us—and I don't think they'll ever release us—and I'm not going anywhere. I don't want to spend the rest of my life in prison and I can't help anyone here. So I simply decided to kill myself.

I found this tube in the bathroom that had fabric at the end of it. I made a noose from the fabric. I had the noose around my neck and I had my Bible. I was reading some passages out loud from the Bible and just as I was about to pull the noose to let myself hang and die, this other Haitian detainee, came in and saw me. He jumped and grabbed me and held me and he told me to stop.

Then some guards came and they took me to PHS, the medical place, at Krome. They never took me to the hospital. The doctor said he would treat me cautiously. He said they wanted to take me to a place for people with mental problems. They kept me at PHS for two days—from 7 am the day I tried to hang myself until about 7 pm the following day. The doctor who talked to me gave me some pills to help me sleep because I can never sleep at night.

I told the doctor not to send me to the place for people with mental problems. I said I'm not sick. It's this place that makes me sick. I just think of my kids, and think of how I lost my case and how they want to keep me in prison forever, and that's why I tried to kill myself. But I'm not sick. They want to keep me in PHS but I told them I wanted to be in general population so they let me go back.

I'm back in the dorm now. No one treats me any differently. I didn't get any further counseling after I was in PHS.

I have a headache though that never stops. They won't give me anything for it though, even though I make requests. I had a problem where I was spitting up blood. I wrote a medical request and they came back with a band-aid. I wrote them back and asked what I was going to do with a band-aid when I'm spitting up blood? They didn't respond and didn't help.

That medication to help me sleep is the only one I'm on. A doctor comes at 9 pm each night and gives it to me. I don't know what it's called. It doesn't matter because it doesn't really work anyway. It doesn't help me sleep. At night when I can't sleep I think about all my children in Haiti. I can't get up to walk around, I just sit and think. I don't think I even need this medicine since it's not helping me sleep and I'm not sick.

Krome is a prison. There's not enough recreation—it's only about a half hour each day—and we're just all locked in. Sometimes there's no chair and we have to sit on the floor because it's so crowded. There are about 92 to 94 people in my dorm. I have a regular bunk but there are also cots because there are so many people.

It's not so much that I had problems with the guards or with other detainees, I was just very depressed because I'm still locked up like this. And knowing that I can't help my kids is really hard for me.

I left Haiti because I did have problems in. But I feel like I came here and found bigger problems because they want to keep us in prison forever here. They won't tell us when we can leave.

HAITIAN ASYLUM SEEKER, KROME
WIFE AND CHILD TRANSFERRED TO
PENNSYLVANIA—MAY 7, 2002

My name is . My "A" number is .
I arrived on the boat with my common-law
wife, , and my son, , on December
3, 2001.

I was immediately separated from my family when we arrived. I have been detained at Krome since December. My family was taken to the hotel.

I saw my family maybe three or four times when they were at the hotel. We were allowed to see each other in the visitation area when they came for court.

About a week and a half ago, I called our sponsor. Our sponsor told me my wife and child were transferred to Pennsylvania. No officer or anyone from INS has talked to me about where my family is or that they were transferred. I don't know how to contact them there. I don't know when they were transferred, my sponsor just said that they're now in Pennsylvania.

I can't say if what's happened to my family is fair or not. We're in jail, and we're not in control of our situation, it's up to them [INS] what to do with us. Since we're locked up they can do whatever they want. Only God knows why they sent my family there.

We came to this country to escape political problems in my country. But I was expecting better treatment than this. I just depend on God to help us out of this.

My health is ok, but sometimes I get very depressed because we've been locked up for so long.

I just follow instructions and do what I'm told here so I don't have any problems with the officers here. I'm not arrogant and I don't make problems for anyone.

Krome is really overcrowded. Even with the Haitians who came at the airport getting released, it's still too crowded. There were 92 people in my pod yesterday; one left last night and one left this morning, but there have also been three new people. They have brought cots in for people to sleep on because there aren't enough beds.

HUMAN CLONING

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2002

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, scientists stunned the world five years ago when they announced the creation of the world's first clone, a sheep named Dolly. In the short time since, cattle, goats, mice, rabbits and a cat have also been cloned. And efforts are now underway in the United States and elsewhere to create cloned human beings.

The President, the public, religious leaders, and many scientists have all expressed their disapproval for efforts to conduct human cloning, for any reason. And the House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved legislation last year to prohibit all human cloning.

Opposition to human cloning is based upon both ethical and scientific considerations. All clones have been found to suffer from severe abnormalities, premature aging and early death. In addition to these problems, cloning also poses significant health risks to the mother of a clone and to the women from whom the eggs necessary for cloning are harvested.

These dangers have not, however, deterred some from attempting to produce cloned humans.

Scientists—such as Dr. Panos Zavos, who recently testified before the Criminal Justice Subcommittee which I chair—are pursuing cloning as a means of producing live human offspring while others seek to create cloned human embryos in order to destroy them for scientific research with the hopes that such research may potentially yield treatments or cures.

Regardless of the goals of those who are attempting to manufacture human clones, the

fact is that cloning, for whatever purpose, creates human life.

There is no difference between a cloned human embryo created for procreation or for research purposes. Whether or not the newly created embryo is implanted with the intent of reproduction or destroyed for the purpose of research is irrelevant to the fact that a cloned human embryo has been created. Therefore, a prohibition on cloning that is limited only to preventing the implantation of a cloned embryo as some have suggested in effect legalizes human cloning, and raises additional ethical dilemmas.

A ban that permits embryonic clones to be created but forbids them to be implanted in utero legally requires the destruction of human life and criminalizes efforts to preserve and protect such life once created.

Under a partial ban that permits the creation of cloned embryos for research, human embryos would be manufactured in numerous laboratories around the country. Once cloned embryos are available, it would be virtually impossible to monitor or control what is done with them.

Stockpiles of embryonic human clones could be produced, bought and sold. Implantation of cloned embryos—an easy procedure—could take place out of sight, and not even the most elaborate and intrusive regulations and policing could detect or prevent the initiation of a clonal pregnancy.

Scientists agree that once begun, a clonal pregnancy would be virtually impossible to detect or differentiate from a routine pregnancy. And if detected, what could the government do? Would a woman with a clonal pregnancy be forced, or coerced with severe penalties, to abort the child?

Allowing human cloning for research brings us further down the slippery slope that devalues the sanctity of human life.

Not even a year ago, supporters of embryonic stem cell research—which requires the destruction of a living human embryo—found “extremely troubling” the announcement that embryos were being created in order to conduct stem cell research. There was a consensus among opponents and supporters of embryonic stem cell research that embryos should never be created solely and specifically for research. But now that is exactly what proponents of research cloning are demanding.

If we now permit the manufacturing of human embryos for research, where do we draw the line? Do we only allow cloned embryos to grow for 5 days before they are destroyed in the process of extracting their stem cells? What about removing tissue from 5-week-old embryos? Should we consider harvesting the organs from 5-month-old fetuses? What will those who support destructive research next claim is necessary in the name of research?

We must finally draw the line that stops the exploitation of any form of human life.

Cloning, regardless of the intent, reduces human life to a commodity that is created and destroyed for convenience. And despite the claims to the contrary, there is no evidence that cloning can, or ever will, cure diseases. Such statements are purely speculative and pursuing cloning merely diverts limited resources away from more promising research that is already producing promising results.

It is clear that a ban that applies only to “reproductive” cloning is a false ban, which

merely creates an illusion that human cloning has been prohibited. The fact is that all cloning is reproductive cloning, and therefore

human cloning for any reason should be banned.

Dr. Zavos announced his goal of producing a cloned human child by the end of this year. Some of his colleagues claim to already have

created cloned pregnancies. Congress must not act as an accomplice to these sinister acts by failing to enact a ban now, before it is too late.