

The Growing of Human Tissue Harvested from Embryos

The news this last week reported that scientists have developed from fertilised ova that are surplus to requirements after *in vitro* fertilisation tissue to replace many kinds of human organs in invalids. When an already fertilised ovum is placed into the wife when a couple is childless, although there is an intrusion of a third party in the marriage, at least that gives the human life a chance to develop. However, we must react to this new manipulation with horror. Fertilised human ova are human beings, and they ought not to be raided for spare parts. The creation of human lives in laboratories that are denied their potential development as individual human beings is nothing but murder. We have genuine compassion for all who are suffering from debilitating diseases. However, such relief, even if it were a virtually miraculous cure, cannot be an option. For surely no Christian could accept such tissue, no matter how ill he or she was, knowing that it had come through the denial of an individual life to an absolutely defenceless human being!