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Williamsburg, MO. 63388
Aug. 31, 2016

Office of Science Policy
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Dr., Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20892

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NIH/OSP

Dear Sirs,

I object strongly to the NIH proposal to rescind the moratorium on funding of human animal chimeras. I do not want my tax dollars being used for grossly unethical research involving the creation and manipulation of part-human, part-animal beings whose very existence blurs the line between human and non-human animals. This proposed research raises all the ethical problems of human embryonic stem cell research in general and serious additional problems related to the creation of human-animal beings with partly or substantially human brains and/or human gametes.

I also object strongly to NIH's apparent lack of consideration for the ethical issues implicated by this research. Indeed, the NIH pledged to "undertake a deliberative process to evaluate the state of the science in this area, the ethical issues that should be considered, and the relevant animal welfare concerns associated with these types of studies" when the moratorium was put in place in 2015. Yet, to date there is no evidence

of any discussion of the ethical issues involved in creating partly human animals.

I strongly urge you to maintain the current moratorium on funding research involving the creation and manipulation of human-animal chimeras.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Mary Beth Books

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