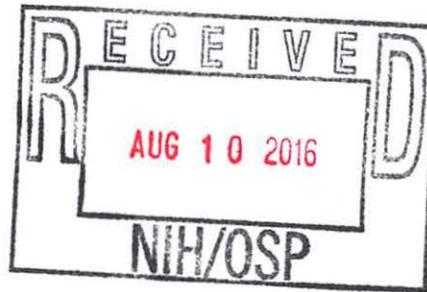


Office of Science Policy
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20892



August 6, 2016

Re: Proposed Changes to the NIH Guidelines for Human Stem Cell Research and the Proposed Scope of an NIH Steering Committee's Consideration of Certain Human-Animal Chimera Research
Notice Number: NOT-OD-26-128

To whom it may concern:

I do not want my tax dollars spent on the above referenced research. Please do not end the moratorium on funding this program. This moratorium was put in place for good reasons and those reasons need to be respected—not rejected. I, personally, have deep ethical concerns about the use of animals to create chimeras.

Here's a novel idea: I suggest we ramp up our human research. Human research is what is needed to produce significant quantifiable data suitable for human beings. At the risk of sounding "wacko" or "out of the NIH bell curve" I suggest we find actual live human volunteers. This way the results will be directly applicable to our species.

Thinking "way out of the box"—I know this is an extreme proposition—and what I am about to propose is an innovative theory at best. But what if we made an appeal to death row inmates? Perhaps they can be offered a deal in which their life is spared if they agree to participate in human scientific research. Let them have the option to participate in medical research with release back into society afterwards in exchange for life in prison or death by execution.

A few genuinely remorseful inmates just might exist—ones who really would make things right again if they could—who'd rather pay their debt to society by earning a legacy of fame for helping find a cure for a disease than being executed. Stranger things have happened. Who knows? It's only a thought.

In any case, for the sake of ethical treatment of animals, I urge you not to fund morally reprehensible research transplanting human cells into animals to create chimeras.

Sincerely,

Sherry Kessel
6874 Treves Way
Boynton Beach, FL 33437