

STEM CELLS

27 May 2002

The Hon. A.L. EVANS: The Hon. Julian Stefani, during matters of interest, raised this important issue, which will be a matter of debate in this place over the coming months. As the honourable member mentioned, I doubt whether anyone will object to adult stem cell research. However, embryo stem cell research is a moral issue that we need to thoroughly examine. As representatives of the people of South Australia, we have a duty to become informed of the pros and cons of embryo stem cell research.

The Australian Family Association is launching a nationwide campaign entitled Do No Harm to support adult stem cell research and oppose embryo stem cell research. Speakers will include Paul Russell, Director of Do No Harm, and Dr John Fleming, Director of Southern Cross Bioethics Institute.

My questions to the minister are:

1. Is the government aware of the Do No Harm campaign that is to be launched on Wednesday 29 May at 7.30 at the Dom Polski Centre, 230 Angas Street?
2. If so, are any government representatives attending the launch?

The Hon. T.G. ROBERTS (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation): I will refer those important questions to the Hon. Lea Stevens in another place and bring back a reply.