

## NAPN POLICY STATEMENT ON HUMAN EMBRYOS

WHEREAS once a human life has been created, by whatever means, that individual member of the human family has a right to life and deserves protection from the beginning of life until the time of natural death,

AND WHEREAS a human embryo is a human being, not an item of property,

AND WHEREAS with respect to living human embryos *inside* a woman's body, the general policies of the National Association of Pro-life nurses in opposition to abortion and abortifacients apply,

AND WHEREFORE a living human embryo who is *outside* a woman's body is not only particularly vulnerable and in need of special protection, but is also a victim by virtue of his or her having been deprived of the natural means of conception and gestation,

BE IT RESOLVED that every living human embryo who is outside a woman's body shall be given the optimum chance to survive. While the practice of transferring such an embryo to the uterus of a woman who is willing and able to carry the pregnancy to term (embryo adoption) is laudable in its intent, it is nonetheless associated with numerous ethical, medical, legal, and psychological challenges. Consequently, the National Association of Pro-life Nurses neither endorses nor condemns the practice of embryo adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Association of Pro-life Nurses opposes the destruction of any living human embryo who is outside a woman's body and any use of the embryo that is not intended to help preserve the life or health of that particular embryo. Destruction or harmful research and experimentation on a living human embryo cannot be justified on the basis that it will help another human being.

Adopted at general meeting, October 27, 2000

Approved by general vote April 2001

Revised and reaffirmed May 2026