**Dr. Jerome Lejeune’s**

**PROPOSAL OF LAW**

(Written by Dr. Jerome Lejeune, world dean of geneticists. It was submitted to the French Parliament through Senator Bernard Seillier, and failed to pass in France back in 1992. Dr. Lejeune passed away at sunrise on Easter morning, April 4th, 1994. A case for his beatification has been opened

by the Catholic Church, and he is now referred to as ‘Venerable’)

**Article 1**

Before the law, each human being is a person, from fertilization until death.

All action of intervention, biological or medical, is licit only if its direct or

indirect goal is to evaluate, to protect or to restore the health of that person.

**Article 2**

The human body is inalienable.

The products of the human body can be acquired with the agreement of the

donor, properly warned of the use that will be made of them.

The gift of organs, freely consented to for direct therapeutic purposes for the

recipient, must preserve the physical and psychological functions of the donor.

The consent of minor or incapable persons, which might be attested by their

legal representatives, is submitted to the authority of the judge of the guardians

and can be accepted only for regenerable organs.

Postmortem surgical removal must maintain the respect due to the dead person.

**Article 3**

The human embryo is inalienable.

The donation of embryos is forbidden, and agreements for the procreation or

gestation on the behalf of other people is illicit.

No human embryo can be submitted to any exploitation whatsoever.

The pursuit of its continued development until its term, in the organism of its

mother, must be offered to each embryo before another embryo is conceived.

**Article 4**

The human genome is inalienable.

It cannot be made the object of any ideological or commercial exploitation.

No manipulation of the human genome is licit, with the exception of the

therapeutic interventions conforming to the three preceding articles.

In the interest of the person, or in that of the descendant or by order of the

court, investigations of genetic constitution and biological filiation are licit.