

# A MARCH OF DIMES

## PRIMER The A-Z of

### Eugenic Killing

By Randy Engel

#### A is for Alpha—The Beginning

On July 22, 1958, the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis/March of Dimes announced it was turning its sites on preventing birth defects.

Still reeling from a bad corporate conscience and massive coverup concerning the "effective, safe and potent" Salk Inactivated Poliomyelitis Vaccine, "a vaccine which turned out to be inadequately studied, seriously flawed and prematurely introduced," the MOD stated it would become a new conscience for America by extending its purview from poliomyelitis to birth defects.

Basil O' Connor, President of the NF, and a very powerful national medical figure, became interested in medical genetics through his association with the Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, instructional course initiated by Johns Hopkins University and the Jackson Laboratory. The Bar Harbor grant has continued for more than thirty years—the longest grant in the 50 year history of the foundation.^

By the start of the 1970 ' s, the MOD ' s commitment to Eugenics and all that the commitment implies was evidenced by the plethora of openly proabortion speakers on the MOD circuit, by the addition of known eugenicists to its various National Advisory Committees, by the eugenic writings found in their *Original Articles Series*, by their energetic funding and promotion of mid-trimester, non-therapeutic prenatal diagnostic research, clinical testing, and by their provision of seed monies to expand eugenic services at university based medical centers throughout the United States'

Once the Key Officials of the NF/MOD accepted the fundamental premise of eugenics—**that there are certain people who never should be born and that it is a positive act for families and**

society, to insure that such persons are *not* born—the fate of the

March of Dimes was chiseled in stone. This report is the story of the NF/MOD's journey into the killing fields of eugenics.

### 1) is for Baby Parts

As the battle over the use of fetal tissues and organs of aborted babies heats up in the U.S. and abroad, we should recall that the MOD has funded such practices for more than two decades."

In the early 1970's MOD funded John F.S. Crocker, MD of Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The \$19,000 study to examine environmental factors causing congenital kidney malfunctions involved **"60 pairs of embryonic kidneys...obtained from human therapeutic abortions after five to twelve weeks gestation."**^ Crocker's earlier animal studies were featured in the MOD's *Birth Defects Reprint Series* (PERS—166,2/73).

In 1981-82, a combined MOD grant enabled Dr. Stanley J. Robboy and his colleagues at Massachusetts General to develop a method for testing the teratogenic and carcinogenic effects of drugs (DES) on developing human organ systems. The "researchers" isolated intact the reproductive tracts from human fetal tissue, obtained by D&C abortions of preborn baby girls up to ten weeks and prostaglandin abortions thereafter. The reproductive tracts were then implanted in laboratory mice to test the effects of diethylstilbestrol^

In 1983-84, a similar experiment was carried on the embryonic reproductive tract of the human male by Dr. G. Cunha, Robboy's associate at the University of California (S.F.) School of Medicine. Twelve male reproductive tracts were obtained by D&C abortions from which the gonads were removed and grafted onto mice. Additionally, the reproductive tracts of eight females obtained through D&C abortions were subjected to similar testing.^

### C is for Cystic Fibrosis

The funding of Cystic Fibrosis "Search and Destroy" (S & D) operations was given top priority in the 1980's by the MOD. CF is the most prevalent inherited disease among Caucasians in the United States, and the discovery of a prenatal marker for the disease would make possible "a new program of mass genetic screening of vast proportions."^

In 1981-82, the MOD got the CF-S&D ball rolling with a \$108,000 research grant to abortionist and MOD National Advisor, Henry L. Nadler, M.D., for "pre-natal diagnosis of cystic fibrosis." In 1983, the MOD, in collaboration with the CF Foundation, awarded a \$50,000 grant to pro-abortionist and MOD National Advisor Dr. Michael Kabac to study the family planning patterns of CF families and see "whether parents of affected children would be more likely to plan other pregnancy if a prenatal test [presumably

backed by selected abortion of affected children] for CF were available.'"

In more recent years, Dr. Hope Punnett of St. Christopher's Hospital for Children (\$20,000/4-1-8<sup>^</sup>—3-31-85) and Dr. Harry Harris of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine (\$60,000/87-88-89) have received research grants for expanded pre-natal testing of CF.

### *D* is for Deceit

The fact that the National Office of the MOD deceives even their own chapters is demonstrated by the controversy surrounding the pre-natal diagnosis technique of fetoscopy—a form of live fetal experimentation, funded by the MOD.

On June 3, 1980, the Pittsburgh Chapter of the MOD, in response to prolife criticism, stated that "...the March of Dimes funds no phase of fetoscopy research," and that "March of Dimes funds are not now, have never, and never will be used in support of anti-life programs."^

Actually, the MOD funding of fetoscopic research to identify "thalassemic fetuses by analyzing placental blood samples early in the course of high-risk pregnancy" has been well publicized in medical circles since such non-therapeutic research is prohibited under the moratorium of the **federal** NIH. Private foundations like the MOD are **not** covered by the ban.

Hence, over the last two decades, MOD funding of fetoscopic techniques and blood analysis to such physicians as Blanche Alter, David Nathan, Haig Kazazian, Yuet Wai Kan and Mitchell Golbus have kept the killing fields open in the genetic community.

As Alter explained at a MOD-sponsored seminar on disorders held in New York in December, 1980, pre-natal screening for hemoglobinopathies is now available—**and should significantly reduce the incidence of severe forms of this disease.**"

### **E is for Eugenic Mafia**

Since the implementation of its eugenic policies and programs in the late 1960's, the MOD'S various Advisory Committees for Medical Services, Basic Research, Clinical Research and Basil O'Connor Starter Research have been dominated by nationally known eugenic abortionists famed for their late abortion technical skills, especially prostaglandin-induced abortion, which provide fresh fetal tissue and organs.

These MOD National Advisors have included William Spellacy, M.D., Edward J. Quilligan, M.D., Leon Speroff, M.D.,\* John C. Hobbins, M.D., Maurice J. Mahoney, M.D. and Henry L. Nadler, M.D.\* Note should be made that Hobbins and Mahoney argue even

in **favor of the third trimester abortions** (as in case of anencephaly) where (1) the disorder is incompatible with postnatal survival for more than a few weeks... (2) the presence of PND tests to affirm condition.^

Other nationally known pro-abortion MOD Advisory members (including MOD Research and Medical Services grant recipients) are Kurt Hirschhom, M.D.,\* Charles Flowers Jr. M.D., David G. Nathan, M.D.,\* John T. Queenan, Kenneth J. Ryan, Rodney Howell, M.D., Richard W. Erbe, M.D.,\* Leon Rosenberg, M.D.,\* Mitchell Golbus, M.D.,\* Laird Jackson, M.D., Michael Kaback, M.D.,\* Norman Kretchmer, M.D.,\* Amo Motulsky, M.D.\* and David Rimoin, M.D. Ph.D.\* (\*Current National Advisors—1989-90)

### **F is for Fetal Experimentation**

It has never been clearly enunciated **for** nor understood by the general public that **all** forms of non-therapeutic first and second trimester techniques of pre-natal diagnosis (PND) have first been carried out on TBA patients, i.e. **TO BE ABORTED** women, and that these techniques were considered a form of LIVE FETAL EXPERIMENTATION!

It should also be noted that in many cases, it was the PND technique itself (i.e. mid-trimester amniocentesis or fetoscopy, or first trimester chorion villus sampling (CVS) that caused the death of the child and not the anticipated abortion.

Beginning in 1968andcontinuing throughout the late 1980's, the MOD has funded and promoted all of the above techniques, including fetoscopy of chorion villus sampling and maternal blood sampling.^

In fact, it has been the financial backing of private foundations like the MOD that permitted fetoscopic and CVS researchers such as MOD grantees David Nathan, M.D., Blanche Alter, M.D., Yuet Kan, M.D. and Mitchell Golbus, to BYPASS the federal moratorium on live, non-therapeutic fetal experimentation."

### **G is for Genetic Diseases Act**

The MOD is a registered lobby in Washington, D.C.

In September of 1978, a "Dear Member" letter, signed by MOD president Charles L. Massey, was circulated to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives, staling that the National Foundation/March of Dimes "strongly endorse(s) passage ofH.R. 12370"—which incorporated the National Genetic Diseases Act of 1976 (Title XI—PHSA) and provided for federal, tax-funded expansion of genetic services, genetic education and genetic laboratory facilities in order to "reduce the incidence

of all genetic diseases" in the United States. (Note: UNALLOWABLE costs under Title X—PHSA were treatment and inpatient hospital care.) This landmark legislation which passed in November, 1978, was to the eugenicist, what the Family Planning and Population Services Act of 1970 was to the birth controller and abortionist.

In lobbying the measure, Massey noted "The financial cost of treating and institutionalizing our severely affected survivors is staggering; we cannot begin to measure the cost..."

The Massey letter cites Sickle Cell Anemia, Cooley's Anemia, Tay-Sachs Disease, Down's Syndrome, Muscular Dystrophy...as diseases which could be **reduced** through genetic screening and prenatal diagnosis. Amniocentesis is described as a procedure that "saves thousand of babies..." How puncturing the womb with a needle, introducing the possibility of infection, miscarriage, exsanguination act and mistakenly aborting "normal" children and deliberately aborting "affected" children, contributes to "saving" lives can only be understood within the context of a eugenic mind set which disinherits from the human family genetically handicapped preborn children but bankrolls the moral defectives who lobby for their slaying.

## **H is for Health by Death**

One of the many tragic consequences of the institutionalization of the "Health by Death" Ethic by the March of Dimes in the United States has been to divert medical science from its original objectives of cure, treatment and advocacy of the ill, the handicapped and infirmed to the killing of the afflicted—prenatally by abortion and postnatally by infanticide and euthanasia.

Amniocentesis, it should be remembered, was a **strictly** therapeutic innovation for use in late pregnancy and in labor before the MOD mounted its multi-million dollar genetic services campaign of "preventing birth defects" by fetal euthanasia.

Once prenatal diagnosis became linked with abortion, **legitimate** scientific research for cures or treatment of disorders especially Tay Sachs and Down's Syndrome fell dramatically.

Dr. Carlo Valenti of Brooklyn's Downstate Medical Center who has appeared at numerous MOD-sponsored genetic symposiums, has argued from the MOD pulpit for legal sanction of late eugenic abortions.

"Unrealistic" and "untreatable" were the words used by Valenti to describe the hope for treatment of most genetic diseases in utero. "...Although I would welcome an alternative to the abortion of a defective fetus. I reluctantly conclude that abortion must remain the solution to inheritable disease."^

## **I is for Insurance**

Securing insurance funds for expanding health insurance coverage for genetic services including screening and prenatal diagnosis has been a major concern of the March of Dimes.

In 1982-83, the MOD, in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Community Health Services (HHS), funded a \$181,968.00 one year study by the Health Services Foundation—a Blue Cross-Blue Shield affiliate—to determine if private reimbursement methods will remove financial barriers to obtaining genetic services, thus saving, according to MOD Vice President, Dr. Arthur J. Salisbury, the government billions of dollars in "custodial care" of "genetically handicapped children" born in the U.S. each year. No mention of increased **coverage** for treatment of disorders was mentioned in the HSF press release of March 1, 1982.

In its *Final Report*<sup>^</sup> the HSF stated that screening and prenatal diagnosis were **cost-effective** when compared to the high cost of caring for "blighted" children, and authors cited the U.S.'s Tay Sachs program as an ideal program. "Prior to screening in 1970, between 50 and 1,009 children were born annually in North America with Tay Sachs Disease. In 1980, only 13 children in North America were born with the disorder. **Cost-benefit studies performed on different communities' experience with Tay Sachs screening along with prenatal diagnosis have demonstrated its cost savings potential.**" (pg. 53)

Since there is no known treatment or cure for Tay Sachs disease—in the womb or out—**only** the **abortion** of affected preborn children would make the Tay Sachs program "cost-saving."

Remember Dr. Salisbury's complaint and the HSF "Health by Death" ethic the next time you read the MOD'S Position Paper on "Search and Destroy" approaches: "...The MOD does not ally itself with those who view abortion as a means of reducing society's cost for care of the handicapped, or as a means of 'purifying the gene pod.'"

## **J is for Justice for the Unborn**

Since the prolife battle with the March of Dimes began in the early 1970's, the movement has been virtually unanimous in its support of an MOD boycott. In 1978, the International Foundation for Genetic Research,<sup>^</sup> popularly known as The Michael Fund, was formed to support prolife genetic research under the direction of the world famous prolife geneticist. Dr. Jerome Le Jeune.

One of the few prolife groups which **has** supported the MOD is *American Citizens Concerned For Life*. The ACCL defense paper, which was written by its Program Director, Raymond J. Di Blasio, Ph.D., is still widely circulated by the National Office, field staff and chapter administrators of the MOD to discredit prolife critics.

According to Di Blasio, "...the March of Dimes' good deeds speak for themselves, and I feel some outrage that ideological zealots eager to invent new enemies should have forced this noble enterprise to defend its honor."

"Occasional misgivings...concerning the supposedly doubtful character of the March of Dimes," Di Blasio states, are "one of those despicable, utterly unfounded misconceptions that clings all the more stubbornly to some minds when it is forcefully reflected."

"As to amniocentesis" the ACCL director stated, "it is a dead issue to both ethicists and medical technicians; the primary question these days is the (medical) safety of its administration. **BEDSIDES, THE BIG NEWS THIS MONTH IS THAT AMNIOCENTESIS IS ABOUT TO BE SUPPLANTED BY AN EASIER, SAFER TECHNIQUE.**" (emphasis added)

Di Blasio is of course making reference to chorion villus biopsy—the first trimester PND technique **practiced on to-beaborted women, developed and promoted by the MOD, more dangerous than amniocentesis** and which has as its sole claim to fame, **that it permits earlier abortion of affected preborn children.** Unfortunately, these affected children have no multimillion dollar public relations department to plead their case, but they should at least be able to obtain justice from those who call themselves "prolife."

### **K is for Kazazian**

In 1984, Dr. Haig H. Kazazian of Johns Hopkins University, a long time MOD grantee and nationally recognized advocate of eugenic abortion was one of the first MOD grantees to receive MOD clinical research funds of \$35,000.00 "to explore the safety and utility of first trimester diagnosis of hereditary anemias and other disorders, by gene analysis of chorionic villus samples."

During this time period. Dr. M. Golbus of the University of California (SF) received \$50,000.00. Well known prostaglandin-abortionist Dr. Maurice J. Mahoney of Yale also received \$35,000.00 for CVS grants for developing a PND technique which would permit the First trimester abortion of affected preborn children.

Moving into the 90's, the MOD continues to pursue its dream of a first trimester, safe and simple pre-natal test by awarding Dr. Kazazian with a more recent (89-90) Clinical Research Grant of \$50,000.00 to refine and apply methods of "enabling accurate, timely prenatal and carrier diagnosis" for Beta-Thalassemia, Hemophilia A, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and Cystic Fi-brosis— none of which are treatable disorders in utero.

### **L is for Lymphocytes**

From the early 1970's to the present time, the MOD has demonstrated a special interest in non-invasive, simple and safe early prenatal diagnosis

techniques to supplement or replace mid-trimester amniocentesis, thus shifting the abortion timetable of affected children from the second to first trimester of pregnancy.

One such MOD grant was awarded to **Dr. A. de la Chapelle** of the Department of Medical Genetics of the University of Helsinki, Finland for the isolation/purification of human fetal lymphocytes found in maternal blood to determine fetal genetic diseases early in pregnancy.

It is instructional to note before hand that the de la Chapelle grant had been preceded by the controversial Adam grant of \$9,240.00 (7374) which covered travel expenses to Helsinki and lab and technician costs for fetal brain metabolism studies on living, human babies aborted by hysterotomy (and still attached by the umbilical cord to the mother) who were decapitated and their heads mounted on perfusion equipment by Adam and his colleagues. According to Arthur A. Gallway, MOD V.P. for Development, (1) the "research" was "done legally and ethically under Finnish law" (2) "the investigators did not participate in the decision to terminate pregnancy" and (3) "they were concerned with the ethics of discarding such fetal tissue without seeking to find ways to improve the life and health of live born premature infants."^ (emphasis added)

Having experienced considerable prolife flack over the Adam severed heads grants, it seems incredible that the MOD should turn around and award de la Chapelle research funds for fetal blood experiments involving more aborted babies.

Nevertheless, according to grant data published by de la Chapelle and associates in *San. J. Immunol.*, (vol. 6, 1977) and credited to the NF/MOD (No. 1-405) and the Sigrid Juselius Foundation, cell sources for the experiment were obtained from both maternal blood samples and "BY OPEN-HEART PUNCTURE OF 10 WEEK FETUSES THAT HAD BEEN ABORTED FOR VARIOUS REASONS, NOT CONNECTED WITH FETAL DISEASE..." (i.e. healthy unwanted babies).^

## M is for Minors and Abortion

The 1989 MOD *Position Paper* "on Promotion of Abortion to Minors" (P. 14) states that MOD "educational materials prepared for use by minors, ..do not present abortion as a way of dealing with teenage pregnancy," and that a number of MOD cooperative programs..."not on matters related to abortion...are specifically designed to restore and support parental guidance."

Left **unsaid** however is that the MOD **does promote** proabortion materials produced by **others**.

For example, in its *Professional Education Catalog* under Perinatal Publications (P. 16), the MOD offers *FREE Adolescent Perinatal Health: A Guidehook for Services*, prepared by an American College of

Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Task Force which **INCLUDED GABRIEL STICKLE—MOD V.P. for Education.**

When the ACOG report was released in 1979-80, the MOD 12 featured the guidebook in its Maternal/Newborn Advocate as "A positive approach toward improving health care for adolescents underage 17... "even though the rabidly pro-abortion report endorsed 1st and 2nd trimester abortion for minors without parental consent and a full range of contraceptive and abortifacient services including "post-coital treatment." (P. 24-26)^

On the educational front, the MOD has brought eugenics and abortion into the classroom and biology and science labs of American schools through its funding of the openly pro-abortion Biological Sciences Curriculum Study (BSCS) based in Boulder, Colorado. ^

### **N is for NOAPP (National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting)**

The MOD has been funding NOAPP—a pro-abortion, proschool based clinic agency—since 1983. NOAPP lobbies "reproductive rights" heavily on Capital Hill.

MOD grants include an initial \$1,000 PHE grant (83-84) for the **production** of a NOAPP newsletter with subsequent grants to **publish** the newsletter; and a CEG of \$20,000 (1/1/90-12/31/90) for a series of training workshops on adolescent pregnancy program evaluation.

On March 25-27, 1985, the MOD co-sponsored and cofunded an adolescent pregnancy seminar titled "Inventing The Future," which included on its faculty, Mary Hughes, MOD V.P. for Community Affairs and NOAPP Advisory Council Member. Included in the "New Futures" Summary Report^ were numerous anti-life references and scenarios **PROMOTING** school based clinics, compulsory population control, homosexuality, birth control ads and divorce.

### **O is for Orwellian Newspeak**

For an explanation of what is meant in MOD genetic circles by the phrase "therapeutic research" we quote Dr. Henry Foster, who served on the MOD'S Medical Service Advisory Committee in the early 1980's (the committee which reviews grant applications for funding of MOD medical service grants):

Flaving stated he personally had done "a lot of amniocentesis and therapeutic abortions, probably near 700,"" Dr. Foster defended fetoscopic research to detect thalassemia prenatally as "clearly therapeutic" since "it was **done for the same reasons that we do amniocentesis, to decide**

**whether or not the pregnancy should continue, and to provide a therapeutic abortion..."^**

Similar examples of Orwellian Newspeak can be found in much current MOD prenatal diagnostic literature.

### **P is for Pope Blesses MOD!**

One of the MOD'S top public relations seams occurred in the summer of 1984 when the MOD published its *Volunteer News-letter* featuring a cover picture of Pope John Paul II and headlined "Pope sends Blessing and gift to the March of Dimes."

In actuality, the alleged gift of \$2,000 was a **personal** gift of a Vatican Bank official to an old friend who was being honored at a MOD fund-raising dinner in Hartford, Conn. Likewise, the Papal Apostolic Blessing was secured by the same Vatican official from the Rome offices which issue such honorariums.

Despite the fact that the Holy Father has repeatedly condemned "neo-natal euthanasia" when the discovery of a prenatal deformity is the equivalent of a death sentence--^

And the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has condemned "any directive or program, ..of scientific organizations which in any way were to favor a link between prenatal diagnosis and abortion"

And the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio reputed the inference that the MOD has received "official church approbation"—"

The *Volunteer* cover was kept in circulation until the National Office ordered its chapters to remove it from circulation in 1989-90.

### **Q is for Question: What are "Genetic Services?"**

"Innovation' and 'leadership' are the words the MOD uses *lo* describe its role in supporting genetic services."

One of these "innovative" genetic service centers is the Prenatal Genetics Clinic for Prenatal Diagnosis and Consultation/Wisconsin Clinical Genetics Center located at Rockford Memorial Hospital. The Rockford/University of Madison genetics complex has been the recipient of thousands of MOD dollars in the form of Basil O'Connor, Clinical and Basic, Social and Behavioral and Reproductive Hazards in workplace grants.

In December, 1980, Renata Laxova, M.D. of the WCGC unleashed the ugly truth about the eugenics war on the preborn at Madison in a *Pediatrics* article titled "Prenatal Diagnosis of Genetic Diseases" (P. 66-76). Mid-trimester amniocentesis or fetoscopy combined with pregnancy

termination of affected children to eliminate preborn children with (1) chromosomal disorders (2) neural tube defects (3) metabolic disorders (4) sex linked blood or muscular and other inheritable disorders were "grossly underutilized," complained Laxova. Included in the comprehensive genetic services' program are late abortions "complicated" by live births which has made Madison General Hospital and the University of Wisconsin Hospital the scenes of numerous pro-life picketing.

Despite bad press, MOD monies have continued to pour into Madison including a \$10,800 (84-85) grant to spread the positive message of eugenics to clergy, teachers, professionals and the public, statewide. However in 1983, more "live births" complications inspired the possibility of revising late abortion killing procedures.

At the Genetics Center of Baylor College of Medicine, another MOD institution grant center, "In the circumstance of a lethal (sic) diagnosis PAST 24 weeks, pregnancy termination can be registered by our institutional review mechanisms..."^

### **R is for Right-To-Life**

The contempt which National Officers and Staff of the MOD have exhibited toward pro-life critics is reflected in the now famous *VOSS Memorandum* circulated from the MOD'S Public Relations Department to all chapters nationwide in 1975-76.

Titled "Pro-Life Agitation," the internal memorandum was designed to counter "Pro-Life Resistance" to MOD'S Growing eugenic policies.

Interestingly, the memorandum features the familiar argument that prenatal diagnosis is not a "search and destroy mission(s)," but

rather "life-saving." Where did this rationale originate? **The answer is— with a pro-abortionist.**

In the early 70's, prior to *Roe vs. Wade*, the MOD financially underwrote and co-sponsored a symposium on *Advances in Human Genetics and Their Impact on Society* featuring a number of key eugenicists who publicly hailed the "enormous" humanitarian gains of PND combined with selective abortion of affected children. According to Dr. M. Neil Macintyre, of Case Western, "Incongruous as it may seem to some readers, prenatal genetic evaluation, coupled with therapeutic abortion to eliminate a defective conceptus, is both a life-giving and a life-saving procedure.""

I however, as pro-life ethicist, Prof. Arthur J.Dyck of Harvard has pointed out. "To decide that a given set of diseases is to be eliminated by elimination of the diseased, is one of the principles on which programs of eugenics and euthanasia rest."

Further. Dyck remarks, if both physician and society should "be

impartial" regarding eugenic abortion, "What advocate is left for defenseless Life?"

### S is for S.K.A.T. (Sex, Knowledge and Attitude Test)

In 1980, the MOD awarded a \$25,974 Public Health Education Grant to Dr. Peggy Smith, Population Program of Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX to provide funds "for the development and implementation of a teacher training kit for *Parenting Education*" (emphasis added) as part of MOD'S program "to protect maternal and newborn health."

Fourteen public school teacher trainees underwent a nine week 72 hour sexual attitudinal desensitization and restructuring program, after which they taught 35 teachers in a 48 hour class setting. Evaluation of both trainers and trainees involved the use of various S.K.A.T. tests including the Autoeroticism Scale, the Abortion Scale, and the Sexual Myths Scale. "A significant shift toward more "liberal" view, especially toward masturbation and other sexual perversions was reported.

According to the project director, the proposed pyramid training model "maximizes opportunities for future project replications," was "cost-effective," and could be used as "a model for school based staff development programs in human sexuality."

### T is for Tay Sachs

Tay Sachs Disease (TSD) is a fatal inborn metabolic disorder which primarily affects children of Ashkenazi Jews. In the early 1970's, it was the first disorder which met the key criteria for **prototype** "search and destroy" (S & D) programs for untreatable, recessive autosomal disease.

In 1975, the MOD co-funded the first International Conference of Tay Sachs Disease: Screening and Prevention, and its local chapters notified area physicians that TSD could be prevented "since intrauterine diagnosis of an affected fetus could be legally followed by termination of pregnancy."

The MOD has poured hundreds of thousands of dollars into TSD genetic "services" and "research" programs, the largest single recipient being pro-abortionist and MOD National Advisor, **Dr. Michael M. Kaback** (UCLA).

**In the 1980's the TSD—S&D operations continued with MOD grants to such institutions as the Hebrew University Hadassah Medical School "to test a new visual method for diagnosis, carrier detection, and prenatal detection of disorders such as Tay Sachs and Gaucher Disease." (7/1/84-6/30/85) (7/1/87-6/30/88)**

### U is for Understanding

The key to unraveling the mystery of the March of Dimes lies in an understanding of the role that money and public relations play in the success and survival of powerful national health agencies such as the MOD.

According to Dr. Herbert Ratner, editor of *Child and Family* and author of "An Untold Vaccine Story" (Complete four part series available from *Child and Family*, Box 508, Oak Park, IL 60303, \$ 12.00)~an expose of the Salk Vaccine Fiasco of 1955—

"To be realistic, the success of national health agencies, and the tenure of their top administrators, depends heavily on the talent of their public relations divisions and for the most part, is measured by the amount of funds garnered from the public...appearance, good or bad, premature or otherwise becomes habitual..."

When the agencies make seriously flawed decisions says **Dr. Ratner**, and reputations and even the preservation of the organization is at stake, "the pressure and the temptation to cover up is intense," even when actual human lives are at stake.

The Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions' 1962 American Character Critique of American Medicine captured the essential character of over publicized, media-type tactics of such agencies as:

"Mass manipulation by hand-selected, well-subsidized overly committed scientists backed by powerful public relations departments of wealthy national health agencies."

The recommendation of Dr. Ratner is that one become "less innocent and more sophisticated in regard to the trustworthiness of mass programs sponsored and supported by national health agencies, the alleged guardians of our health."^

## **V is for Villi as in Chorion Villus Sampling (CVS)**

CVS is a new prenatal diagnostic technique which can be performed between the 9th-11th week of pregnancy for direct chromosomal and biomedical studies. According to the MOD's head of CVS studies, Laird G. Jackson of Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, CVS is preferable to Mid-trimester am-niocentesis, performed at 16 weeks gestation because, "Clearly, it would be preferable to identify genetic abnormalities before the 12th week of gestation, so that patients could opt for first-trimester termination of pregnancy, which is simpler, safer and less psychologically stressful than the mid-trimester procedure."

As with fetoscopy, Laird stated that "Our initial experience with chorionic villus sampling was obtained from a group of 60 volunteers who

underwent the procedure immediately before termination of pregnancy." According to another MOD grantee, Dr. Mitchell Golbus, it is "very necessary" for doctors attempting CVS to practice on TBA patients first.

The Jackson statements were taken from an article by Dr. Jackson titled, "First-Trimester Diagnosis of Fetal Genetic Disorders" (Hospital Practice, AP. 15, 85), **sent to this writer by Richard P. Leavitt, head of Corporate Communications for the National Office of the MOD in White Plains, New York.**

In still another of its Public Relations seams, the MOD press release on CVS dated 4/15/84, claims that "safe first-trimester diagnosis of genetic disorders MAY make it possible to intervene and treat problems before **damage** is done in the womb. [emphasis added] The March of Dimes supports research on chorion villus biopsy and the Philadelphia registry in an effort to determine the risks and applicability of the new procedure." MOD'S reference to future therapy is ludicrous when one understands that the sole selling point of the more dangerous CVS procedure is that it makes possible an earlier eugenic abortion—the **ultimate** damage to the child in the womb.

## **W is for WHO—U.N. World Health Organization**

The belief that First and second trimester prenatal diagnosis for untreatable disorders such as Tay Sachs or Downs Syndrome is inextricably linked to abortion of suspected affected pre-born children can be validated at the international level by the action of the W.H.O.

A report titled *Prevention and Control of Genetic and Congenital Defects*, published in 1984 by the Pan American Regional Office of WHO, under the section dealing with the Alpha-Fetoprotein (AFP) testing for neural defects (a test actively endorsed by the MOD and in effect at MOD-financially established genetic centers across the U.S.) reads:

"This primary prevention measure [i.e. AFP testing and amniocentesis] is already being applied voluntarily in countries with organized prenatal care programs and WHERE THERE IS THE LEGAL OPTION TO ABORT ABNORMAL FETUSES IN THE 2ND TRIMESTER. The technique is simple and the cost-benefit ratio very favorable." Listed as the first requirement for an effective AFP program was "Legislation permitting the interruption of pregnancy when the fetus is abnormal." (P. 12)

## **X is for X-Linked Disorders**

The MOD has stated it does not support mid-trimester prenatal diagnosis for sex selection purposes, but this is not quite true.

Because of the relatively high risk of fetal loss following fetoscopy to detect sex-linked disorders such as hemophilia or muscular dystrophy Duchenne, an "alternative" genetic strategy has been to use amniocentesis

or chorion biopsy to determine the sex of the fetus, and then abort all the males since there is a 50% chance the male offspring of a female carrier will develop the disease with the female offspring (at the same percentage) being only carriers.

According to Dr. Stylianos E. Antonarakis, of Johns Hopkins Hospital Department of Pediatrics, "We certainly can reduce the cases of hemophilia by two-thirds, perhaps 250 cases a year. if all the women who have an affected fetus elected to abort."

In "Guidelines for the Ethical, Social and Legal Issues in Prenatal Diagnosis," a \$17,000 MOD study by the pro-abortion think-tank known as the Hastings Institute, the Institute's Genetics Research Group recommended that "Prenatal ascertainment of sex in fetuses at risk for otherwise undiagnosable sex-linked disorders should be available to parents who want it..."

Regarding sex selection across the board, the *Hastings Report*, which was sent to all MOD field staff, science writers and family interest editors throughout the U.S., concluded that "although we strongly oppose any movement aimed at making diagnosis of sex and selective abortion a part of ordinary medical practice and family planning. WE RECOMMEND THAT NO LEGAL RESTRICTIONS BE PLACED ON ASCERTAINMENT OF FETAL SEX..."

The MOD has funded research grants also to discover the gene marker for hemophilia B as a basis for PND (Jagadeeswaran-pudur \$25,000: 9/11/84-8/31/85 & \$20,830: 9/1/86-87) and for gene carrier tests for woman carrying the gene for hemophilia A or B. (R. Janco, \$15,000: 1/1/90-12/31/90)

## **Y is for Yale-Harvard Medical Underground**

Since the early 1970's there has existed among various MOD-funded university-based genetic medical complexes a type of "medical underground" which co-operates at a number of levels to provide various types of research assistance—for example, supplying fresh human fetal tissues, blood or organs—to their colleagues in need.

A very **rare** opportunity to witness the activities of this underground was provided in the Feb. 2, 1977, issue of *Medical Tribune* in an article titled "Fetal Research Continued Despite Hysteria."

In an exclusive interview with *Medical Tribune* (P. 1 -25), Dr. David Nathan, Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard University, a MOD grantee and current National MOD advisor, disclosed how his fellow MOD-funded colleague, Dr. Blanche Alter and their fetologic hemoglobinopathy team "master-minded a plane and bus shuttle of blood samples and patients and

an interprofessional axis between London, New Haven and Boston in order that "knowledge go on, vital clinical testing go on, and when necessary, abortions go on."

Through their fetoscopic trials, Nathan claimed, they have given the hematologic green light to abortions all over the world...

Dr. Nathan said, "I **told** the Right-To-Life group here...there

was no way to pass a law to stop us...You can't stop knowledge."

About the same time of the *Medical Tribune* interview, Nathan detended the policies of the National Foundation/March of Dimes against "attacks by 'Pro-Life' or 'Right-To-Life'" groups in a special issue of the *Villanova Law Review* on "Research on the Fetus." Here Nathan warned that "because the foundation supports research on the developing fetus, it became the object of utterly mindless calumny. "

Going into the 90's there is sufficient information to support the belief that the "underground" described by Nathan is alive and well today among MOD-funded researchers.

Z is for Omega—The End

Perhaps the most frequently asked question concerning the National Foundation/March of Dimes' role in spreading the gospel of eugenics is this—How did it happen? When did the MOD take the wrong turn in the road?

A similar question was raised in the final scene of the GM movie classic *Judgement of Nuremberg*, based on the war-guilt trials of the Nazis.

One of the convicted jurists (played by Burt Lancaster), expressing his deep regret at his role in the Holocaust, cries out to Judge Dan Hayward (played by Spencer Tracy):

**"Those people—those millions of people—1 never knew it would come to that. You must believe it! You must believe it!"**

Hayward's response was simple:

**"It came to *that the first time* you sentenced a man to death you *knew to be innocent.*"**

The answer regarding the **beginning** of the National Foundation/March of Dimes' role in eugenic killing which has lead to the death of thousands of innocent preborn children whose only "crime" was to be suspected of being "less than perfect" is this:

It began the very **first** time the National leadership of the March of Dimes knowingly gave its assent to the contract killing of handicapped

children in the womb. The rest is history!