

Human embryos and the like

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Propositions associated with the thesis

HUMAN EMBRYOS AND THE LIKE

**The Ethics and Policy of Research with
3D Human Embryo-Like Structures**

Ana Pereira Daoud

1. Research with human embryo-like structures is not an innocuous alternative to research with human embryos. (*This thesis*)
2. The argument from (active) potential can (still) be used to ground normative distinctions between different (clusters of) human cells. (*This thesis*)
3. The decoupled approach demonstrated in gastruloids calls the moral appropriateness of cellular (non-)integration (in terms of embryonic and/or extraembryonic tissues) as a policy divisor into question. (*This thesis*)
4. In the context of research with human embryo-like structures, the 14-day rule loses the pragmatic utility for which it was instated. (*This thesis*)
5. To be good doctors, medical students should strive to be replaceable by humans and irreplaceable by machines.
6. Rather than disrupt moral concepts and intuitions, (bio)technological advancements (help) refine them.
7. To be a matter of course, parenthood should first be a matter of choice.
8. The Dutch Embryo Act (and its envisioned reform) can only be theoretically coherent if the moratorium on the special creation of human embryos for research purposes ('research embryos') is lifted. (*This thesis*)
9. "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel" (Margueritte Johnson, a.k.a. Maya Angelou).
10. "Waar ik mij goed voel ben ik thuis" ("ubi bene, ibi patria" (Erasmus)).