



Monday, 8 February, 2016

Mr. Ashton B. Carter
Secretary of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon Washington
DC 20301-1400
U.S.A

Dear Sir,

Re: Biological Wills Bank™

I write to you as head of “New Family”, the largest organization in Israel dedicated to the human right to have a family. “New Family” has been active since 1998 in promoting the human right to register as spouses, to parenting and to have a family for all the citizens and residents of the State of Israel, including citizens of the the United States of America residing in Israel. Over 100,000 applicants were already aided by our organization.

I wish to congratulate you on your welcome plan to freeze sperm and eggs of those in military service in the United States, as was published by Michael S. Schmidt Feb. 3, 2016 in the New York Times .

As an expert in legal fertility technologies in Israel and worldwide for almost two decades, and as an expert in Family Law, I am well aware of the significance of this issue and of the many aspects that have to be evaluated and considered in preparing such a plan.

When I conceived the idea of the “Biological Will”™ in 2001, which in fact means a conceptual and legal document in which a person bequeaths his gametes to his/her relatives (his/her spouse or parents), I was under substantial criticism by the medical establishment and by various sections of the military. Several years later, in 2005, I established the “**Biological Wills Bank**™“. People did not understand what a “Biological Will”™ is and they certainly did not understand its intrinsic potential as a rehabilitating agent which provides hope of perpetuation of life and of continuity of personal and family legacy. The first attempts that I made to carry out a “Biological Will”™ that was made by people who subsequently died, were very difficult and complex both legally as well as in terms of public opinion. The first and most famous of those was the story of an Israeli soldier that was killed by a sniper in the Gaza Strip and only after 12 years of legal and medical battle a daughter was born from him.

Today, thanks to dozens more cases which I handled in Israel and worldwide, the process became shorter and it takes several months from the moment that the decedent's family, his spouse or parents, wish to use the sperm egg or embryo that she or he left behind until a child is born from them.

Our “Biological Wills Bank”™ currently contains thousands of biological wills, made by young people who left instructions as their last will and testament, in the event that their life comes to a premature end. Some of those who deposited a biological will also froze sperm



or eggs and some of them only left instructions for sperm extraction in the event that they die in tragic circumstances.

Nowadays I am developing models for civil activity alongside cooperation with military agents in Israel and with additional bodies such as the L. Greenberg National Institute of Forensic Medicine, which is the statutory-governmental body equivalent to your “forensic investigators”.

I hope that your plan is approved and that more people understand the humanitarian significance of this human project.

I will be happy to be of service to you, to advise and to share information.

Respectfully,

Irit Rosenblum, advocate
Founder and CEO